

HOUSE BILL 975

R5

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By: **Chair, Environmental Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2010

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Maryland Transportation Authority – Highways**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of “vehicular crossing” for purposes of
4 certain provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law to include certain highways
5 under the jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation Authority, thereby
6 applying certain provisions of law to certain highways under the jurisdiction of
7 the Authority and providing that certain powers and authority granted to the
8 Authority are applicable to certain highways under the jurisdiction of the
9 Authority; making conforming changes; and generally relating to highways
10 under the jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation Authority.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Transportation
13 Section 11–127, 21–1402, and 21–1403
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Transportation
18 Section 21–1401, 21–1407, 21–1411, and 21–1413
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
22 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

23 **Article – Transportation**

24 11–127.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 “Highway” means:

2 (1) The entire width between the boundary lines of any way or
3 thoroughfare of which any part is used by the public for vehicular travel, whether or
4 not the way or thoroughfare has been dedicated to the public and accepted by any
5 proper authority; and

6 (2) For purposes of the application of State laws, the entire width
7 between the boundary lines of any way or thoroughfare used for purposes of vehicular
8 travel on any property owned, leased, or controlled by the United States government
9 and located in the State.

10 21–1401.

11 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

12 (b) “Approach” means any roadway, overhead structure, ramp, bridge,
13 causeway, entrance, and exit provided as a means of access to or departure from a
14 vehicular crossing.

15 (c) “Bridge” means any bridge within the jurisdiction of the Maryland
16 Transportation Authority.

17 (d) “Tunnel” means:

18 (1) The Baltimore Harbor Tunnel; and

19 (2) Any other tunnel within the jurisdiction of the Maryland
20 Transportation Authority.

21 (e) “Vehicular crossing” means:

22 (1) Each [tunnel] **HIGHWAY, TUNNEL,** and bridge within the
23 jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation Authority; and

24 (2) Each approach to these [tunnels] **HIGHWAYS, TUNNELS,** and
25 bridges.

26 21–1402.

27 Unless specifically modified or changed by this subtitle, each provision of the
28 Maryland Vehicle Law applicable to motor vehicles on highways applies on all
29 vehicular crossings.

30 21–1403.

1 To promote safety for users of vehicular crossings, the Maryland Transportation
2 Authority may adopt rules and regulations governing traffic using the vehicular
3 crossings.

4 21–1407.

5 (a) The driver of a vehicle may not stop, stand, or park the vehicle on any
6 vehicular crossing [or highway under the jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation
7 Authority], except:

8 (1) If necessary to avoid injury or damage to any person or property;

9 (2) In compliance with the lawful direction of an authorized employee
10 of the vehicular crossing;

11 (3) At a designated area for the transaction of business at an
12 Administration building; or

13 (4) If the vehicle is disabled or involved in an accident, in which case
14 the vehicle shall be moved, if possible:

15 (i) To the shoulder of the roadway;

16 (ii) Adjacent to the emergency walkway on a bridge; or

17 (iii) As otherwise directed by a patrol officer.

18 (b) Notwithstanding § 25–201(b) of this article, the Maryland Transportation
19 Authority may adopt regulations governing the removal of vehicles left unattended for
20 12 or more hours on any vehicular crossing [or highway under its jurisdiction].

21 21–1411.

22 (a) Except as permitted by the rules and regulations of the Maryland
23 Transportation Authority and to the extent permitted by federal law, a person may not
24 transport or knowingly cause to be transported any of the following hazardous
25 materials across or through any vehicular crossing [or highway within the jurisdiction
26 of the Maryland Transportation Authority]:

27 (1) Combustible liquids;

28 (2) Compressed gases;

29 (3) Corrosive liquids;

30 (4) Explosives;

- 1 (5) Flammable liquids;
- 2 (6) Flammable solids;
- 3 (7) Oxidizing materials;
- 4 (8) Poisonous articles; or
- 5 (9) Radioactive materials.

6 (b) The provisions of § 22–409 of this article shall apply to the transportation
7 of any permitted hazardous material across or through any vehicular crossing [or
8 highway within the jurisdiction of the Maryland Transportation Authority].

9 (c) To secure and preserve life and property, the Maryland Transportation
10 Authority may adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection (a)
11 of this section.

12 21–1413.

13 (a) A person may not fail or refuse to pay the prescribed toll at any [highway
14 or] vehicular crossing for which the payment of a toll is fixed.

15 (b) A person may not attempt to evade the payment of the toll at any
16 [highway or] vehicular crossing for which the payment of a toll is fixed.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 July 1, 2010.