

Chapter 681

(House Bill 485)

AN ACT concerning

Motor Vehicle Equipment – Spare Tire Requirement – Application

FOR the purpose of expanding the requirement that a motor vehicle manufacturer equip certain motor vehicles with a spare tire that conforms with State law to apply to ~~all~~ certain additional new motor vehicles sold in the State; creating an exception to the spare tire equipment standard for a motor vehicle equipped with a factory installed temporary tire repair and inflation system; making a stylistic change; and generally relating to motor vehicle spare tire equipment standards in the State.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 22–405
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 22–405.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

22–405.

(a) A person may not drive a motor vehicle on any highway unless the motor vehicle is equipped with tires in safe operating condition, in accordance with requirements approved by the Administrator.

(b) A person may not drive a trailer on any highway unless the trailer is equipped with tires in safe operating condition, in accordance with requirements approved by the Administrator.

(c) The Administrator shall adopt rules of safe operating conditions capable of being employed by a police officer for visual inspection of tires maintained on

vehicles, including visual comparisons with simple measuring devices. The requirements shall encompass effects on tread wear and depth of tread.

(d) If a police officer, at any time, has reasonable cause to believe that a vehicle is unsafe or equipped with tires in violation of the provisions of this section, the police officer may require the driver of the vehicle to stop and submit the vehicle tire to an inspection. If the inspection discloses the vehicle to be in violation, the officer may issue a summons for the violation.

22-405.3.

If a new ~~Class A passenger~~ **(PASSENGER) OR CLASS M (MULTIPURPOSE)** **MOTOR** vehicle is sold in this State, the manufacturer shall equip the **MOTOR** vehicle with a spare tire that conforms with the requirements in § 22-405 of this subtitle, unless:

(1) The tire-wheel system of the **MOTOR** vehicle provides a run-flat capability by which a partially inflated driving surface becomes available in the event of a tire failure; **[or]**

(2) **THE MOTOR VEHICLE IS EQUIPPED WITH A FACTORY-INSTALLED TEMPORARY TIRE REPAIR AND INFLATION SYSTEM; OR**

(3) Technological improvements, consistent with applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards, become available.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 20, 2010.