

SENATE BILL 125

R5

2lr0038

By: **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request – Departmental –
Transportation)**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2012

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Public Transit Vehicles – Right-of-Way**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the driver of a motor vehicle to yield the right-of-way to
4 a public transit vehicle under certain circumstances; requiring transit agencies
5 in the State to conduct certain public information campaigns; defining a certain
6 term; and generally relating to the right-of-way for public transit vehicles.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Transportation
9 Section 7–101(p)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2008 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Transportation
14 Section 21–101(a)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Transportation
19 Section 21–101(y) and 21–406
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
23 Article – Transportation
24 Section 21–101(y) and (z)
25 Annotated Code of Maryland
26 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Transportation**

4 7–101.

5 (p) “Transit vehicle” means a mobile device used in rendering transit service.

6 21–101.

7 (a) In this title and Title 25 of this article the following words have the
8 meanings indicated.

9 **(Y) “TRANSIT VEHICLE” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 7–101(P) OF**
10 **THIS ARTICLE.**

11 **[(y)] (Z)** “Urban district” means an area that:

12 (1) Adjoins and includes any street; and

13 (2) Is built up with structures that are:

14 (i) Devoted to business, industry, or dwelling houses; and

15 (ii) Situated at intervals of less than 100 feet, for a distance of
16 at least a quarter of a mile.

17 **[(z)] (AA)** “Wheelchair” means a mobility aid belonging to any class of
18 three– or four–wheeled devices that:

19 (1) Is usable indoors;

20 (2) Does not exceed 30 inches in width and 48 inches in length, when
21 measured 2 inches above the ground; and

22 (3) Is designed for and used by a mobility impaired individual,
23 whether operated manually or powered.

24 **21–406.**

25 **(A) IF PRACTICABLE AND NOT OTHERWISE PROHIBITED, THE DRIVER**
26 **OF A MOTOR VEHICLE IN THE IMMEDIATE ADJACENT LANE SHALL YIELD THE**
27 **RIGHT–OF–WAY TO A PUBLIC TRANSIT VEHICLE THAT:**

1 **(1) DISPLAYS A “YIELD TO PUBLIC TRANSIT VEHICLE” SIGN**
2 **ABOVE OR NEAR THE LEFT REAR DIRECTIONAL SIGNAL;**

3 **(2) IS TRAVELING IN THE SAME DIRECTION; AND**

4 **(3) HAS ACTIVATED THE LEFT DIRECTIONAL SIGNAL TO INDICATE**
5 **THAT IT IS REENTERING TRAFFIC.**

6 **(B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT RELIEVE THE DRIVER OF A PUBLIC**
7 **TRANSIT VEHICLE FROM THE DUTY TO DRIVE WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE**
8 **SAFETY OF OTHER PERSONS USING THE ROADWAY.**

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That transit agencies in the
10 State shall conduct public information campaigns consisting of public service
11 announcements and, if available, the use of electronic means, including electronic mail
12 notifications and Web site updates, to advise motorists and the law enforcement
13 community about the requirements of this Act.

14 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
15 October 1, 2012.