

SENATE BILL 499

R5

3lr2403

By: **Senator Manno**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2013

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Obstruction of Driver’s View**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a certain exception to, and the maximum penalty for a
4 violation of, the prohibition against driving a vehicle with certain materials
5 placed on the windshield or rear window of the vehicle; making certain stylistic
6 changes; and generally relating to prohibitions against driving with an
7 obstructed view.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Transportation
10 Section 21–1104(d) and 27–101(m)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2012 Replacement Volume)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Transportation
15 Section 27–101(a) and (b)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2012 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article – Transportation**

21 21–1104.

22 (d) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, a
23 person may not drive a vehicle with any sign, poster, card, sticker, or other

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 nontransparent material on [the windshield, side wings, or side or rear windows of the
2 vehicle]:

3 (I) THE WINDSHIELD;

4 (II) THE REAR WINDOW; OR

5 (III) THE SIDE WINDOWS OR WINGS.

6 (2) This subsection does not apply to:

7 (i) Materials placed on the windshield or rear window, within a
8 7 inch square area in the lower corner, or on the side windows of the vehicle to the
9 rear of the driver[,] if the materials are placed **ON THE SIDE WINDOWS** so as not to
10 interfere with the driver's clear view of traffic;

11 (ii) Direction, destination, or termini signs on any passenger
12 common carrier motor vehicle; or

13 (iii) Electronic toll collection tags placed in the windshield of a
14 vehicle in accordance with the regulations of the Maryland Transportation Authority.

15 (3) The Administration shall adopt regulations to exempt from the
16 provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection materials placed on the windshield of a
17 vehicle in compliance with security measures required by a federal or State
18 government agency and approved by the Administration.

19 27–101.

20 (a) It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate any of the provisions of the
21 Maryland Vehicle Law unless the violation:

22 (1) Is declared to be a felony by the Maryland Vehicle Law or by any
23 other law of this State; or

24 (2) Is punishable by a civil penalty under the applicable provision of
25 the Maryland Vehicle Law.

26 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, any person convicted of a
27 misdemeanor for the violation of any of the provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law is
28 subject to a fine of not more than \$500.

29 (m) Any person who is convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of §
30 21–802.1 of this article (Exceeding speed limit within highway work zone) **OR §**
31 **21–1104(D)(1)(I) OR (II) OF THIS ARTICLE (OBSTRUCTION TO DRIVER'S VIEW)** is
32 subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 2013.