

HOUSE BILL 662

R6, R5

6lr3223

By: **Delegate Beidle**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2016

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Emergency Vehicles – Blood, Organ, or Tissue Delivery Vehicles**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the defined term “emergency vehicle” to include a blood, organ,
4 or tissue delivery vehicle; defining the term “blood, organ, or tissue delivery vehicle”;
5 authorizing the driver of an emergency vehicle to exercise certain privileges while
6 transporting under certain circumstances human blood, organs, or tissue or medical
7 personnel; authorizing blood, organ, or tissue delivery vehicles to be equipped with
8 certain light or signal devices; making certain conforming changes; making a certain
9 stylistic change; and generally relating to emergency blood, organ, or tissue delivery
10 vehicles.

11 BY renumbering

12 Article – Transportation

13 Section 11–104.1

14 to be Section 11–104.2

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

17 BY adding to

18 Article – Transportation

19 Section 11–104.1 and 22–218(c)(13)

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

23 Article – Transportation

24 Section 11–118, 16–104.1(e), 21–106, and 22–218(c)(1) and (4)

25 Annotated Code of Maryland

26 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 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 MARYLAND,
2 That Section(s) 11–104.1 of Article – Transportation of the Annotated Code of Maryland be
3 renumbered to be Section(s) 11–104.2.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
5 as follows:

6 **Article – Transportation**

7 **11–104.1.**

8 **“BLOOD, ORGAN, OR TISSUE DELIVERY VEHICLE” MEANS A VEHICLE THAT IS**
9 **USED AND MAINTAINED TO TRANSPORT HUMAN BLOOD, BLOOD PRODUCTS, ORGANS,**
10 **OR TISSUE ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS.**

11 11–118.

12 “Emergency vehicle” means any of the following vehicles that are designated by the
13 Administration as entitled to the exemptions and privileges set forth in the Maryland
14 Vehicle Law for emergency vehicles:

- 15 (1) Vehicles of federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies;
- 16 (2) Vehicles of volunteer fire companies, rescue squads, fire departments,
17 the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, and the Maryland Fire
18 and Rescue Institute;
- 19 (3) State vehicles used in response to oil or hazardous materials spills;
- 20 (4) State vehicles designated for emergency use by the Commissioner of
21 Correction;
- 22 (5) Ambulances; [and]
- 23 **(6) BLOOD, ORGAN, OR TISSUE DELIVERY VEHICLES; AND**

24 **[(6)] (7)** Special vehicles funded or provided by federal, State, or local
25 government and used for emergency or rescue purposes in this State.

26 16–104.1.

27 (e) Except when the towing vehicle is a commercial motor vehicle and subject to
28 the provisions of this section, a noncommercial Class A, B, or C license holder may:

- 29 (1) Tow any travel trailer as defined in § 11–170 of this article;

1 (2) Tow any camping trailer as defined in § 11–106 of this article; or

2 (3) Tow any boat trailer as defined in § [11–104.1] **11–104.2** of this article.

3 21–106.

4 (a) Subject to the conditions stated in this section:

5 (1) The driver of an emergency vehicle registered in any state may exercise
6 the privileges set forth in this section while:

7 (i) Responding to an emergency call;

8 (ii) Pursuing a violator or suspected violator of the law; [or]

9 (iii) Responding to, but not while returning from, a fire alarm;

10 **(IV) TRANSPORTING ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS A HUMAN ORGAN**
11 **OR HUMAN TISSUE FOR TRANSPLANTATION OR HUMAN BLOOD FOR A TRANSFUSION;**
12 **OR**

13 **(V) TRANSPORTING MEDICAL PERSONNEL ON AN EMERGENCY**
14 **BASIS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERFORMING HUMAN ORGAN OR TISSUE HARVESTING**
15 **OR TRANSPLANTATION OR A HUMAN BLOOD TRANSFUSION; and**

16 (2) The driver of an emergency vehicle registered in the State or a local
17 jurisdiction in the State may exercise the privileges set forth in this section while
18 performing motorcade or escort duty if the motorcade or escort duty involves:

19 (i) Homeland security;

20 (ii) A funeral;

21 (iii) A dignitary; or

22 (iv) Facilitating the safe movement of vehicles or pedestrians that
23 are or will be near the motorcade or escort.

24 (b) Under the circumstances stated in subsection (a) of this section, the driver of
25 an emergency vehicle may:

26 (1) Park or stand without regard to the other provisions of this title;

27 (2) Pass a red or stop signal, a stop sign, or a yield sign, but only after
28 slowing down as necessary for safety;

1 (3) Exceed any maximum speed limit, but only so long as the driver does
2 not endanger life or property;

3 (4) Disregard any traffic control device or regulation governing direction of
4 movement or turning in a specified direction; and

5 (5) Travel through any local jurisdiction in the State as necessary to
6 perform and return from motorcade or escort duty.

7 (c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the privileges set forth in
8 this section apply only while the emergency vehicle is using audible and visual signals that
9 meet the requirements of § 22–218 of this article, except that an emergency vehicle
10 operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display the visual signals.

11 (2) The privileges set forth in subsection (b)(1) of this section apply only
12 while the emergency vehicle is using visual signals that meet the requirements of § 22–218
13 of this article.

14 (3) (i) The driver of an emergency vehicle may not use flashing lights
15 or a bell, siren, or exhaust whistle while returning from an emergency call, fire alarm, or
16 motorcade or escort, except that fire apparatus carrying standing firemen may use flashing
17 lights that are visible only to the rear.

18 (ii) The driver of an emergency vehicle, while parking or backing the
19 emergency vehicle, may use flashing lights within 100 feet of the entrance ramp to a:

20 1. Fire station; or

21 2. Rescue station.

22 (4) Before exercising the privileges set forth in subsection (b)(5) of this
23 section, the jurisdiction that employs the driver of a motorcade or escort shall provide notice
24 of the motorcade or escort to any jurisdiction that the driver will enter while performing or
25 returning from the motorcade or escort duty.

26 (d) This section does not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle from the duty
27 to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons.

28 22–218.

29 (c) (1) A person may not drive or move on any highway any vehicle or
30 equipment that is equipped with or displays any light or signal device designed to emit an
31 oscillating, rotating, blinking, or other type of emission of light, unless designated and
32 authorized by the Administrator as indicated in paragraphs (2) through [(12)] (13) of this
33 subsection. The provisions of this section do not prohibit the display and use of any lighting
34 device that may be permitted or required elsewhere in the Maryland Vehicle Law.

1 (4) Ambulances may be equipped with or display red [and/or], white, OR
2 RED AND WHITE lights or signal devices.

3 **(13) BLOOD, ORGAN, OR TISSUE DELIVERY VEHICLES MAY BE**
4 **EQUIPPED WITH OR DISPLAY RED, WHITE, OR RED AND WHITE LIGHTS OR SIGNAL**
5 **DEVICES.**

6 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2016.