

# HOUSE BILL 176

R4, R5

7lr0652

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By: **Delegates Morgan, Clark, and Rey**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2017

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicle Registration – Exception for Golf Carts – Golden Beach Patuxent**  
3 **Knolls**

4 FOR the purpose of creating an exception from motor vehicle registration requirements  
5 under certain circumstances for golf carts on county highways in the community of  
6 Golden Beach Patuxent Knolls, St. Mary's County; providing that a person who  
7 operates a golf cart on a county highway in the community of Golden Beach Patuxent  
8 Knolls may operate the golf cart only on certain county roads at certain times and  
9 only if the golf cart is equipped with certain lighting devices; requiring a person who  
10 operates a golf cart on a county highway in the community of Golden Beach Patuxent  
11 Knolls to keep as far to the right of the roadway as feasible and possess a valid  
12 driver's license; authorizing the St. Mary's County Department of Public Works and  
13 Transportation, in consultation with the State Highway Administration, to  
14 designate the county highways in the community of Golden Beach Patuxent Knolls  
15 on which a person may operate a golf cart; and generally relating to an exception to  
16 motor vehicle registration requirements for golf carts in the community of Golden  
17 Beach Patuxent Knolls, St. Mary's County.

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
19 Article – Transportation  
20 Section 13–402(a)(1)  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
24 Article – Transportation  
25 Section 13–402(c)  
26 Annotated Code of Maryland  
27 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

28 BY adding to

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Article – Transportation  
2 Section 21–104.3  
3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
4 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

7 **Article – Transportation**

8 13–402.

9 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or elsewhere in the  
10 Maryland Vehicle Law, each motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer driven on  
11 a highway shall be registered under this subtitle.

12 (c) Registration under this subtitle is not required for:

13 (1) A vehicle that is driven on a highway:

14 (i) In conformity with the provisions of this title relating to  
15 manufacturers, transporters, dealers, secured parties, owners or operators of special mobile  
16 equipment, or nonresidents; or

17 (ii) Under a temporary registration card issued by the  
18 Administration;

19 (2) A vehicle owned and used by the United States, unless an authorized  
20 officer or employee of the United States requests registration of the vehicle;

21 (3) A farm tractor or any farm equipment;

22 (4) A vehicle the front or rear wheels of which are lifted from the highway;

23 (5) A towed vehicle that is attached to the towing vehicle by a tow bar and  
24 for which no driver is necessary;

25 (6) A vehicle owned by and in the possession of a licensed dealer for purpose  
26 of sale;

27 (7) A vehicle owned by a new resident of this State during the first 60 days  
28 of residency provided the vehicle displays valid registration issued by the jurisdiction of the  
29 resident's former domicile;

30 (8) New vehicles being operated as part of a shuttle, as defined in § 13–626  
31 of this title, while following a registered vehicle displaying a shuttle permit issued by the  
32 Administration;

1 (9) A vehicle operated in connection with maritime commerce exclusively  
2 within any terminal owned or leased by the Maryland Port Administration;

3 (10) A snowmobile that is operated on highways and roadways as prescribed  
4 by § 25–102(a)(14) of this article;

5 (11) A golf cart that is operated on a highway on Smith Island, provided that  
6 the golf cart is equipped with lighting devices as required by the Administration if it is  
7 operated on a highway between dusk and dawn;

8 (12) A golf cart that is operated on a highway in the City of Crisfield,  
9 Somerset County, in accordance with § 21–104.2 of this article;

10 (13) **A GOLF CART THAT IS OPERATED ON A COUNTY HIGHWAY IN THE**  
11 **COMMUNITY OF GOLDEN BEACH PATUXENT KNOLLS, ST. MARY’S COUNTY, IN**  
12 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 21–104.3 OF THIS ARTICLE;**

13 (14) A golf cart that is operated on an Allegany County highway as allowed  
14 by the county under § 25–102(a)(16) of this article; or

15 [(14)] (15) A vehicle owned by an accredited consular or diplomatic officer  
16 of a foreign government and operated for official or personal purposes when the vehicle  
17 displays a valid diplomatic license plate issued by the United States government.

18 **21–104.3.**

19 (A) **A PERSON WHO OPERATES A GOLF CART ON A COUNTY HIGHWAY IN THE**  
20 **COMMUNITY OF GOLDEN BEACH PATUXENT KNOLLS, ST. MARY’S COUNTY,**  
21 **WITHOUT REGISTRATION AS AUTHORIZED UNDER § 13–402(C)(13) OF THIS ARTICLE:**

22 (1) **MAY OPERATE THE GOLF CART ONLY:**

23 (i) **ON A COUNTY HIGHWAY ON WHICH THE MAXIMUM POSTED**  
24 **SPEED LIMIT DOES NOT EXCEED 35 MILES PER HOUR;**

25 (ii) **BETWEEN DAWN AND DUSK; AND**

26 (iii) **IF THE GOLF CART IS EQUIPPED WITH LIGHTING DEVICES**  
27 **AS REQUIRED BY THE ADMINISTRATION;**

28 (2) **SHALL KEEP THE GOLF CART AS FAR TO THE RIGHT OF THE**  
29 **ROADWAY AS FEASIBLE; AND**

30 (3) **SHALL POSSESS A VALID DRIVER’S LICENSE.**

1           **(B) THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND**  
2 **TRANSPORTATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE HIGHWAY**  
3 **ADMINISTRATION, MAY DESIGNATE THE COUNTY HIGHWAYS IN THE COMMUNITY OF**  
4 **GOLDEN BEACH PATUXENT KNOLLS ON WHICH A PERSON MAY OPERATE A GOLF**  
5 **CART.**

6           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
7 October 1, 2017.