

HOUSE BILL 997

R5

7lr2698
CF SB 925

By: **Delegates Fraser–Hidalgo and Kramer**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2017

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2017

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Bicycles, Play Vehicles, and Unicycles – Operation on Sidewalks**
3 **and in Crosswalks**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that, subject to certain provisions of law, a person has certain
5 rights and is subject to certain restrictions applicable to pedestrians while the person
6 is lawfully operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle on a sidewalk or sidewalk
7 area or in or through a crosswalk; providing that, at an intersection, a person
8 operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle is subject to certain traffic control
9 signals; providing that a certain provision of law does not apply to a person operating
10 a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle; altering a certain definition; and generally
11 relating to the operation of bicycles, play vehicles, and unicycles.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Transportation
14 Section 21–101(a), (i), ~~(m)~~, (o), and (w) and 21–506
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article – Transportation
19 Section 21–101(m) and 21–1202
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

3 **Article – Transportation**

4 21–101.

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

7 (i) “Crosswalk” means that part of a roadway that is:

8 (1) Within the prolongation or connection of the lateral lines of sidewalks
9 at any place where 2 or more roadways of any type meet or join, measured from the curbs
10 or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway;

11 (2) Within the prolongation or connection of the lateral lines of a bicycle
12 way where a bicycle way and a roadway of any type meet or join, measured from the curbs
13 or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway; or

14 (3) Distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings.

15 (m) “Play vehicle” means a vehicle that:

16 (1) Has two or ~~three~~ **MORE** wheels;

17 (2) Is propelled only by human power; ~~and~~

18 (3) Is not a bicycle, as defined in Title 11 of this article; **AND**

19 **(4) IS NOT A WHEELCHAIR.**

20 (o) “Public bicycle area” means any highway, bicycle path, or other facility or area
21 maintained by this State, a political subdivision of this State, or any of their agencies for
22 the use of bicycles.

23 (w) “Sidewalk” means that part of a highway:

24 (1) That is intended for use by pedestrians; and

25 (2) That is between:

26 (i) The lateral curb lines or, in the absence of curbs, the lateral
27 boundary lines of a roadway; and

28 (ii) The adjacent property lines.

1 21-506.

2 (a) Where a sidewalk is provided, a pedestrian may not walk along and on an
3 adjacent roadway.

4 (b) Where a sidewalk is not provided, a pedestrian who walks along and on a
5 highway may walk only on the left shoulder, if practicable, or on the left side of the roadway,
6 as near as practicable to the edge of the roadway, facing any traffic that might approach
7 from the opposite direction.

8 21-1202.

9 (A) Every person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter in a public bicycle area
10 has all the rights granted to and is subject to all the duties required of the driver of a vehicle
11 by this title, including the duties set forth in § 21-504 of this title, except:

12 (1) As otherwise provided in this subtitle; and

13 (2) For those provisions of this title that by their very nature cannot apply.

14 (B) (1) **SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A**
15 **PERSON HAS THE RIGHTS AND IS SUBJECT TO THE RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO**
16 **PEDESTRIANS UNDER THIS TITLE WHILE THE PERSON IS LAWFULLY OPERATING A**
17 **BICYCLE, PLAY VEHICLE, OR UNICYCLE:**

18 (I) **ON A SIDEWALK OR SIDEWALK AREA; OR**

19 (II) **IN OR THROUGH A CROSSWALK.**

20 (2) **AT AN INTERSECTION, A PERSON OPERATING A BICYCLE, PLAY**
21 **VEHICLE, OR UNICYCLE IS SUBJECT TO ALL TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS, AS**
22 **PROVIDED IN §§ 21-202 AND 21-203 OF THIS TITLE.**

23 (3) **SECTION 21-506 OF THIS TITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON**
24 **OPERATING A BICYCLE, PLAY VEHICLE, OR UNICYCLE.**

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