

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

A BILL ENTITLED

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; and generally relating to the operation of bicycles,
11 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 21–1202
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Transportation**

25 21–101.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

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

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

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

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

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

12 (1) Has two or three wheels;

13 (2) Is propelled only by human power; and

14 (3) Is not a bicycle, as defined in Title 11 of this article.

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

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

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

20 (2) That is between:

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

23 (ii) The adjacent property lines.

24 21–506.

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

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

1 21-1202.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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