A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning Vehicle Laws – Intersections – Prohibited Acts

FOR the purpose of prohibiting vehicle traffic from entering certain intersections against certain traffic signals if the vehicle is unable to safely and completely proceed through the intersection; establishing certain exceptions to the prohibition; making conforming changes; and generally relating to prohibited acts by vehicle traffic at intersections.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Transportation
Section 21–202
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation


(a) (1) Except for special pedestrian signals that carry a legend, where traffic is controlled by traffic control signals that show different colored lights or colored lighted arrows, whether successively one at a time or in combination, only the colors green, red, and yellow may be used.

(2) These lights apply to drivers and pedestrians as provided in this section.

(b) [Vehicular] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (M) OF THIS SECTION, VEHICULAR
traffic facing a circular green signal may proceed straight through or, unless a sign at the
place prohibits the turn, turn right or left.

(c) Vehicular traffic described under subsection (b) of this section, including any
vehicle turning right or left, shall yield the right–of–way to any other vehicle and any
pedestrian lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk when the signal is
shown.

(d) [Vehicular] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (M) OF THIS SECTION, VEHICULAR
traffic facing a green arrow signal, whether shown alone or with another indication,
cautiously may enter the intersection, but only to make the movement indicated by the
arrow or to make another movement permitted by other indications shown at the same
time.

(e) Vehicular traffic described under subsection (d) of this section shall yield the
right–of–way to any pedestrian or bicycle lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to any
other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(f) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in §
21–203 of this subtitle, a pedestrian facing any green signal, unless the green signal is only
a turn arrow, may cross the roadway, within any marked or unmarked crosswalk, in the
direction of the green signal.

(g) (1) Vehicular traffic facing a steady yellow signal is warned that the
related green movement is ending or that a red signal, which will prohibit vehicular traffic
from entering the intersection, will be shown immediately after the yellow signal.

(2) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in
§ 21–203 of this subtitle, a pedestrian facing a steady yellow signal is warned that there is
not enough time to cross the roadway before a red signal is shown, and a pedestrian may
not then start to cross the roadway.

(h) (1) Vehicular traffic facing a steady circular red signal alone:

(i) Shall stop at the near side of the intersection:

1. At a clearly marked stop line;

2. If there is no clearly marked stop line, before entering any
crosswalk; or

3. If there is no crosswalk, before entering the intersection;

and

(ii) Except as provided in subsections (i), (j), and (k) of this section,
shall remain stopped until a signal to proceed is shown.
(2) Vehicular traffic facing a steady red arrow signal:

(i) May not enter the intersection to make the movement indicated by the arrow;

(ii) Unless entering the intersection to make a movement permitted by another signal, shall stop at the near side of the intersection:

1. At a clearly marked stop line;

2. If there is no clearly marked stop line, before entering any crosswalk; or

3. If there is no crosswalk, before entering the intersection; and

(iii) Except as provided in subsections (i), (j), and (k) of this section, shall remain stopped until a signal permitting the movement is shown.

(i) Unless a sign prohibiting a turn is in place, vehicular traffic facing a steady red signal, after stopping as required by subsection (h) of this section, cautiously may enter the intersection and make:

(1) A right turn; or

(2) A left turn from a one-way street onto a one-way street.

(j) If a sign permitting any other turn is in place, vehicular traffic facing a steady red signal, after stopping as required by subsection (h) of this section, cautiously may enter the intersection and make the turn indicated by the sign.

(k) In each instance, vehicular traffic described in subsections (i) and (j) of this section shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian or bicycle lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(l) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in §21–203 of this subtitle, pedestrians facing a steady red signal alone may not enter the roadway.

(M) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A VEHICLE FACING A CIRCULAR GREEN SIGNAL, A GREEN ARROW SIGNAL, OR A STEADY YELLOW SIGNAL MAY NOT ENTER AN INTERSECTION IF THE VEHICLE IS UNABLE TO SAFELY AND COMPLETELY PROCEED THROUGH THE INTERSECTION.

(2) (1) A VEHICLE THAT IS MAKING A LEFT TURN WHEN FACING A
CIRCULAR GREEN SIGNAL MAY ENTER THE INTERSECTION WHILE YIELDING THE RIGHT–OF–WAY TO ANY OTHER VEHICLE THAT IS APPROACHING FROM THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION OR A PEDESTRIAN.

(II) A VEHICLE THAT IS MAKING A RIGHT TURN MAY ENTER THE INTERSECTION WHILE YIELDING THE RIGHT–OF–WAY TO A PEDESTRIAN OR A BICYCLIST.

[(m)] (N) Except for those provisions of this section that by their very nature cannot apply, this section applies to a traffic control signal placed at a location other than an intersection. Each stop required by the signal shall be made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the stop shall be made or, if there is no sign or marking, at the signal.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2018.