

HOUSE BILL 1262

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By: **Delegate Parrott**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Driving in Right-Hand Lanes**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the driver of a vehicle traveling slower than the general speed
4 of traffic on certain highways to drive the vehicle in the right-hand lanes under
5 certain circumstances; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to include certain
6 information in the State's driver education curriculum; requiring the State Highway
7 Administration to inform drivers of certain requirements by posting certain signage
8 and providing certain notice in a certain manner; requiring the Motor Vehicle
9 Administration and the State Highway Administration to provide a certain report to
10 certain committees of the General Assembly; and generally relating to requirements
11 to drive in the right-hand lanes of a roadway.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Transportation
14 Section 21-301(b)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Transportation**

20 21-301.

21 (b) **(1)** On every roadway, except while overtaking and passing another vehicle
22 going in the same direction or when preparing for a lawful left turn, any vehicle going 10
23 miles per hour or more below the applicable maximum speed limit or, if any existing
24 conditions reasonably require a speed below that of the applicable maximum, at less than
25 the normal speed of traffic under these conditions, shall be driven in the right-hand lane

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 then available for traffic or as close as practicable to the right-hand curb or edge of the
2 roadway.

3 **(2) (I) ON A ROADWAY THAT IS DIVIDED INTO TWO OR MORE**
4 **CLEARLY MARKED LANES FOR TRAFFIC TRAVELING IN THE SAME DIRECTION, A**
5 **DRIVER OF A VEHICLE TRAVELING SLOWER THAN THE GENERAL SPEED OF TRAFFIC,**
6 **IF PRACTICABLE AS DETERMINED BY THE DRIVER, SHALL DRIVE IN THE**
7 **RIGHT-HAND LANE OR LANES.**

8 **(II) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL INCLUDE THE REQUIREMENT**
9 **UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH IN THE STATE'S DRIVER**
10 **EDUCATION CURRICULUM.**

11 **(III) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION SHALL INFORM**
12 **DRIVERS OF THE REQUIREMENT UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH:**

13 **1. BY PLACING AND MAINTAINING SIGNS AT REGULAR**
14 **INTERVALS ON APPROPRIATE HIGHWAYS; AND**

15 **2. THROUGH THE DYNAMIC MESSAGE SIGN SYSTEM**
16 **LOCATED THROUGHOUT THE STATE.**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 1,
18 2022, the Motor Vehicle Administration and the State Highway Administration shall report
19 jointly to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and the House Environment and
20 Transportation Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article,
21 on the efforts made to provide driver education and notice throughout the State required
22 under this Act.

23 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2020.