

SENATE BILL 65

L1, F1

0lr1133

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Ellis**

Requested: October 30, 2019

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Counties – Construction of Sidewalks and Crosswalks – Safe Alternative Routes**
3 **to Public Schools**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a county board of education each year to prepare and post in
5 a certain manner a certain report that identifies pathways that certain public school
6 students may use to travel to school using only safe alternative routes under certain
7 circumstances; requiring the governing body of a county each year to review a certain
8 report and construct any sidewalks and crosswalks necessary to create safe
9 alternative routes for certain public school students under certain circumstances;
10 requiring the governing body of a county to develop a certain plan with a certain
11 governmental entity or person and take certain efforts to execute a certain plan
12 under certain circumstances; defining a certain term; providing for the application
13 of this Act; and generally relating to safe alternative routes to public schools.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
15 Article – Education
16 Section 7–801(b)(1)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

19 BY adding to
20 Article – Education
21 Section 7–801(d)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

24 BY adding to
25 Article – Local Government
26 Section 12–506.1
27 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2013 Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

4 **Article – Education**

5 7–801.

6 (b) (1) At its own expense, a county governing body may provide
7 transportation for public school students in addition to the transportation provided by the
8 State.

9 **(D) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “SAFE ALTERNATIVE ROUTE” INCLUDES:**

10 **(I) A ROAD WITH SIDEWALKS AND, AT INTERSECTIONS,**
11 **CROSSWALKS;**

12 **(II) A FOOT PATH; AND**

13 **(III) A BIKE PATH.**

14 **(2) EACH YEAR, A COUNTY BOARD SHALL PREPARE A REPORT THAT**
15 **IDENTIFIES:**

16 **(I) FOR EACH PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE COUNTY, THOSE AREAS**
17 **OF THE COUNTY WHERE A STUDENT WHO IS REGULARLY ASSIGNED TO THE SCHOOL**
18 **WOULD BE INELIGIBLE FOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES BASED ON THE DISTANCE**
19 **BETWEEN A RESIDENCE AND THE SCHOOL; AND**

20 **(II) PATHWAYS THAT A STUDENT RESIDING IN AN AREA**
21 **IDENTIFIED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH MAY USE TO TRAVEL BETWEEN**
22 **THE STUDENT’S RESIDENCE AND REGULARLY ASSIGNED SCHOOL USING ONLY A**
23 **SAFE ALTERNATIVE ROUTE OR A CONTIGUOUS SERIES OF SAFE ALTERNATIVE**
24 **ROUTES.**

25 **(3) THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL POST TO THE COUNTY’S WEBSITE**
26 **EACH REPORT PREPARED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

27 **Article – Local Government**

28 **12–506.1.**

29 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ALL COUNTIES.**

1 **(B) IN THIS SECTION, “SAFE ALTERNATIVE ROUTE” HAS THE MEANING**
2 **STATED IN § 7-801(D)(1) OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.**

3 **(C) EACH YEAR, THE GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY SHALL:**

4 **(1) REVIEW THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER § 7-801(D)(2) OF THE**
5 **EDUCATION ARTICLE; AND**

6 **(2) CONSTRUCT ANY SIDEWALKS AND CROSSWALKS NECESSARY TO**
7 **CREATE SAFE ALTERNATIVE ROUTES FOR STUDENTS AS IDENTIFIED IN THE REPORT.**

8 **(D) IF THE GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY MUST ALTER A ROAD THAT IS**
9 **NOT SUBJECT TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE COUNTY IN ORDER TO MEET THE**
10 **REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, THE GOVERNING BODY SHALL:**

11 **(1) DEVELOP A PLAN WITH THE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY OR PERSON**
12 **THAT HAS CONTROL OF THE ROAD; AND**

13 **(2) TAKE REASONABLE EFFORTS TO EXECUTE THE PLAN IN AN**
14 **EXPEDITIOUS MANNER.**

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
16 1, 2020.