

# SENATE BILL 95

L1, F1  
SB 65/20 – EHE

(PRE-FILED)

3lr0921

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By: **Senator Ellis**

Requested: November 18, 2022

Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2023

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## 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; and generally relating to safe alternative routes to  
13 public schools.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
15 Article – Education  
16 Section 7–801(b)(1)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2022 Replacement Volume)

19 BY adding to  
20 Article – Education  
21 Section 7–801(e)  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2022 Replacement Volume)

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

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2013 Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

**Article – Education**

7–801.

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

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

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

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

**(III) A BIKE PATH.**

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

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

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

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

**Article – Local Government**

**12–506.1.**

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

1           **(B) IN THIS SECTION, “SAFE ALTERNATIVE ROUTE” HAS THE MEANING**  
2 **STATED IN § 7-801(E)(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(E)(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 July  
16 1, 2023.