

HOUSE BILL 43

R4, R5

(4lr0948)

ENROLLED BILL

— *Environment and Transportation/Judicial Proceedings* —

Introduced by ~~Delegate Stewart~~ **Delegates Stewart, Allen, Boyce, Davis, Guyton, Jacobs, Lehman, J. Long, Love, T. Morgan, Nawrocki, and Stein**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicle Registration – Exceptions for Golf Carts – Authorization**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing counties and municipalities to designate county or
4 municipal highways under their respective jurisdictions on which a person may
5 operate a golf cart; repealing certain authorizations to operate golf carts on highways
6 in certain local areas of the State; and generally relating to the operation of golf carts
7 on highways.

8 BY repealing

9 Article – Transportation

10 Section 21–104.2 through 21–104.4 and 21–104.6

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



- 1 BY renumbering
2 Article – Transportation
3 Section 21–104.5
4 to be Section 21–104.3
5 Annotated Code of Maryland
6 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- 7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Transportation
9 Section 13–402(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- 12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Transportation
14 Section 13–402(c)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- 17 BY adding to
18 Article – Transportation
19 Section 21–104.2
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
23 That Section(s) 21–104.3, 21–104.4, and 21–104.6 of Article – Transportation of the
24 Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 21–104.5 of Article
26 – Transportation of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s)
27 21–104.3.

28 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
29 as follows:

30 **Article – Transportation**

31 13–402.

32 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or elsewhere in the
33 Maryland Vehicle Law, each motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer driven on
34 a highway shall be registered under this subtitle.

35 (2) If a motor vehicle required to be registered under this subtitle is not
36 registered, a person may not park the unregistered motor vehicle on any:

1 (i) Public alley, street, or highway; or

2 (ii) Private property used by the public in general, including parking
3 lots of shopping centers, condominiums, apartments, or town house developments.

4 (3) The provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection do not apply to a
5 motor vehicle that is exempt from registration under this section or § 13-402.1 of this
6 subtitle.

7 (c) Registration under this subtitle is not required for:

8 (1) A vehicle that is driven on a highway:

9 (i) In conformity with the provisions of this title relating to
10 manufacturers, transporters, dealers, secured parties, owners or operators of special mobile
11 equipment, or nonresidents; or

12 (ii) Under a temporary registration card issued by the
13 Administration;

14 (2) A vehicle owned and used by the United States, unless an authorized
15 officer or employee of the United States requests registration of the vehicle;

16 (3) A farm tractor or any farm equipment;

17 (4) A vehicle the front or rear wheels of which are lifted from the highway;

18 (5) A towed vehicle that is attached to the towing vehicle by a tow bar and
19 for which no driver is necessary;

20 (6) A vehicle owned by and in the possession of a licensed dealer for purpose
21 of sale;

22 (7) A vehicle owned by a new resident of this State during the first 60 days
23 of residency provided the vehicle displays valid registration issued by the jurisdiction of the
24 resident's former domicile;

25 (8) New vehicles being operated as part of a shuttle, as defined in § 13-626
26 of this title, while following a registered vehicle displaying a shuttle permit issued by the
27 Administration;

28 (9) A vehicle operated in connection with maritime commerce exclusively
29 within any terminal owned or leased by the Maryland Port Administration;

30 (10) A snowmobile that is operated on highways and roadways as prescribed
31 by § 25-102(a)(14) of this article;

1 (11) [A golf cart that is operated on a highway on Smith Island, provided
2 that the golf cart is equipped with lighting devices as required by the Administration if it
3 is operated on a highway between dusk and dawn;

4 (12)] A golf cart that is operated on a highway in accordance with §
5 21–104.2[, § 21–104.3, § 21–104.4, or § 21–104.6] of this article;

6 [(13)] (12) A golf cart that is operated on an Allegany County highway as
7 allowed by the county under § 25–102(a)(16) of this article;

8 [(14)] (13) A vehicle owned by an accredited consular or diplomatic officer
9 of a foreign government and operated for official or personal purposes when the vehicle
10 displays a valid diplomatic license plate issued by the United States government; or

11 [(15)] (14) A personal delivery device that is operated on a roadway,
12 sidewalk, shoulder, or crosswalk in accordance with [§ 21–104.5] § 21–104.3 of this article.

13 [21–104.2.

14 A person who operates a golf cart on a highway in the City of Crisfield, Somerset
15 County, without registration as authorized under § 13–402(c)(12) of this article:

16 (1) May operate the golf cart only:

17 (i) On a highway on which the maximum posted speed limit does
18 not exceed 30 miles per hour;

19 (ii) Between dawn and dusk; and

20 (iii) If the golf cart is equipped with lighting devices as required by
21 the Administration;

22 (2) Shall keep the golf cart as far to the right of the roadway as feasible;
23 and

24 (3) Shall possess a valid driver's license.]

25 **21–104.2.**

26 (A) **SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON WHO**
27 **OPERATES A GOLF CART ON A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL HIGHWAY WITHOUT**
28 **REGISTRATION, AS AUTHORIZED UNDER § 13–402(C)(11) OF THIS ARTICLE:**

29 (1) **MAY OPERATE THE GOLF CART ONLY:**

1 (I) ON A HIGHWAY ON WHICH THE MAXIMUM POSTED SPEED
2 LIMIT DOES NOT EXCEED;

3 1. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN ITEM 2 OF THIS ITEM, 30
4 MILES PER HOUR; OR

5 2. IN GOLDEN BEACH PATUXENT KNOLLS, ST. MARY'S
6 COUNTY, 35 MILES PER HOUR;

7 (II) ~~1.~~ BETWEEN DAWN AND DUSK; ~~AND; AND~~

8 ~~(III)-(III)~~ ~~IF, IF~~ IF THE GOLF CART IS EQUIPPED WITH
9 LIGHTING DEVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE ADMINISTRATION; ~~OR~~

10 ~~2.~~ ~~AT ALL TIMES OF THE DAY, IF THE GOLF CART IS~~
11 ~~EQUIPPED WITH HEADLIGHTS, TAIL LIGHTS, AND BRAKE LIGHTS APPROVED BY THE~~
12 ~~ADMINISTRATION AND ANY OTHER LIGHTING DEVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE~~
13 ~~ADMINISTRATION; AND~~

14 ~~(III) IF THE NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS DOES NOT EXCEED THE~~
15 ~~NUMBER OF SEATS IN THE GOLF CART;~~

16 (2) SHALL KEEP THE GOLF CART AS FAR TO THE RIGHT OF THE
17 ROADWAY AS FEASIBLE; AND

18 (3) SHALL POSSESS A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

19 (B) THE GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY MAY DESIGNATE
20 THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL HIGHWAYS UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS
21 WITHIN THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY ON WHICH A PERSON MAY OPERATE A GOLF
22 CART.

23 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
24 October 1, 2024.