SENATE BILL 464

By: **Senator Jackson** Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2024 Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2	Urban State Highways – Speed Limits – Exceptions							
$3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6$	FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Highway Administration to decrease the maximum speed limit by a certain amount on certain urban State highways without an engineering and traffic investigation; and generally relating to speed limits on urban State highways.							
$7 \\ 8$	BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, Article – Transportation							

- 9 Section 8–630(a)(1) and (3) and 21–801.1(b)
- 10 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- 12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 13 Article Transportation
- 14 Section 21–802
- 15 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 16 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)
- SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19			Article – Transportation			
20	8–630.					
21	(a)	(1)	In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.			
22		(3)	"Urban highway" means a highway, other than an expressway, that is:			
23			(i) 1. Constructed with a curb and gutter and an enclosed type			

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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1	storm draina	age sys	stem;				
$\frac{2}{3}$	2. Located in an urban area and on which is located a public facility that creates appreciable pedestrian traffic along the highway from adjacent areas;						
4 5	Census Bure	Census Bureau; or			Located within urban boundaries as defined by the U.S.		
$6 \\ 7$	and			4.	Located within the boundaries of a municipal corporation;		
8			(ii)	Part o	of the State highway system.		
9	21-801.1.						
10	(b)	Excep	ot as ot	cherwis	se provided in this section, the maximum speed limits are:		
11		(1)	15 mi	les per	hour in alleys in Baltimore County;		
12		(2)	30 mi	les per	hour on:		
13			(i)	All hi	ghways in a business district; and		
14			(ii)	Undiv	vided highways in a residential district;		
15		(3)	35 mi	les per	hour on divided highways in a residential district;		
16		(4)	50 miles per hour on undivided highways in other locations; and				
17		(5)	55 mi	les per	hour on divided highways in other locations.		
18	21-802.						
19 20 21 22 23	(a) If, on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, the State Highway Administration determines that any maximum speed limit specified in this subtitle is greater or less than reasonable or safe under existing conditions on any part of a highway under its jurisdiction, it may establish a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that part of the highway.						
24	(b) An engineering and traffic investigation is not required [to]:						
$\frac{25}{26}$	(1) TO conform a posted maximum speed limit in effect on December 31, 1974, to a different limit specified in § 21–801.1(b) of this subtitle; OR						
27 28	MAXIMUM S	(2) SPEED			TATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION TO DECREASE THE UTHORIZED UNDER § 21–801.1(B)(2) AND (3) OF THIS		

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SUBTITLE ON ANY URBAN HIGHWAY, AS DEFINED IN § 8–630 OF THIS ARTICLE, UNDER ITS JURISDICTION BY 5 MILES PER HOUR.

3 (c) Under this section, the State Highway Administration may:

4 (1) Establish a maximum speed limit to apply at all times or only at 5 specified times; and

6 (2) Establish differing limits for different times of day, different types of 7 vehicles, different weather conditions, or other factors bearing on safe speeds.

8 (d) An altered maximum speed limit established under this section is effective 9 when posted on appropriate signs giving notice of the limit.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 11 October 1, 2024.