

# HOUSE BILL 263

R1

5lr0724

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegate R. Long**

Requested: August 30, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transportation Authority – Francis Scott Key Memorial Bridge**  
3 **– Naming**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring that, on completion of a new bridge to replace the collapsed  
5 Francis Scott Key Bridge, the Maryland Transportation Authority name the new  
6 bridge the Francis Scott Key Memorial Bridge; and generally relating to the naming  
7 of toll bridges.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Transportation

10 Section 4–408

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Transportation

15 Section 4–101(h)(1) and 6–209(c)(2)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Transportation**

21 **4–408.**

22 **ON COMPLETION OF A NEW BRIDGE OVER THE PATAPSCO RIVER AS A**  
23 **REPLACEMENT FOR THE COLLAPSED FRANCIS SCOTT KEY BRIDGE, THE**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **AUTHORITY SHALL NAME THE NEW BRIDGE THE FRANCIS SCOTT KEY MEMORIAL**  
2 **BRIDGE.**

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
4 as follows:

5 **Article – Transportation**

6 4–101.

7 (h) “Transportation facilities project” includes:

8 (1) The Susquehanna River Bridge, the Harry W. Nice/Thomas “Mac”  
9 Middleton Potomac River Bridge, the William Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial Chesapeake Bay  
10 Bridge and parallel Chesapeake Bay Bridge, the Baltimore Harbor Tunnel, the Fort  
11 McHenry Tunnel, the Francis Scott Key **MEMORIAL** Bridge, and the John F. Kennedy  
12 Memorial Highway, together with their appurtenant causeways, approaches, interchanges,  
13 entrance plazas, toll stations, and service facilities;

14 6–209.

15 (c) (2) An authorization issued under this section authorizes gaming on the  
16 waters of the State only while the vessel:

17 (i) Is underway;

18 (ii) Is east of the Francis Scott Key **MEMORIAL** Bridge; and

19 (iii) Is operating under an itinerary that either originates or  
20 terminates in a foreign port outside the continental United States.

21 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

22 (a) Section 2 of this Act is contingent on completion of a new bridge over the  
23 Patapsco River as a replacement for the collapsed Francis Scott Key Bridge.

24 (b) Within 5 days after the new bridge opens to vehicle traffic the Maryland  
25 Transportation Authority shall notify the Department of Legislative Services.

26 (c) If notice of the opening of the new bridge is received by the Department of  
27 Legislative Services on or before December 31, 2030, Section 2 of this Act shall take effect  
28 on the date the notice is received by the Department of Legislative Services in accordance  
29 with subsection (b) of this section.

30 (d) If notice is not received by the Department of Legislative Services on or before  
31 December 31, 2030, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General  
32 Assembly, shall be null and void.

1           SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to Section 3 of this  
2 Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 2025.