

HOUSE BILL 963

R5

5lr0878

By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County – Highways – Maximum Speed Limits**

3 **MC 1–25**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a local authority in Montgomery County to decrease the
5 maximum speed limit on a highway without performing an engineering and traffic
6 investigation; and generally relating to maximum speed limits in Montgomery
7 County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Transportation

10 Section 21–803(a)(1), (c), and (d)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Transportation

15 Section 21–803(a)(4)

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 21–803.

22 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) through (5) of this subsection, if,
23 on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, a local authority determines that
24 any maximum speed limit specified in this subtitle is greater or less than reasonable or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 safe under existing conditions on any part of a highway in its jurisdiction, it may establish
2 a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that part of the highway, which may:

- 3 (i) Decrease the limit at an intersection;
- 4 (ii) Increase the limit in an urban district to not more than 50 miles
5 per hour;
- 6 (iii) Decrease the limit in an urban district; or
- 7 (iv) Decrease the limit outside an urban district to not less than 25
8 miles per hour.

9 (4) (i) This paragraph applies only to:

- 10 1. Anne Arundel County and Montgomery County; and
- 11 2. Municipalities located in Anne Arundel County and
12 Montgomery County.

13 (ii) 1. **[A] SUBJECT TO SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 2 OF THIS**
14 **SUBPARAGRAPH, A local authority may decrease the maximum speed limit to not less than**
15 **15 miles per hour on a highway only after performing an engineering and traffic**
16 **investigation.**

17 2. **IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, A LOCAL AUTHORITY MAY**
18 **DECREASE THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON A HIGHWAY UNDER SUBSUBPARAGRAPH**
19 **1 OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH WITHOUT PERFORMING AN ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC**
20 **INVESTIGATION.**

21 (iii) A local authority may not implement a new speed monitoring
22 system to enforce speed limits on any portion of a highway for which the speed limit has
23 been decreased under this paragraph.

24 (c) An altered maximum speed limit established under this section is effective
25 when posted on appropriate signs giving notice of the limit.

26 (d) Except in Baltimore City, any alteration by a local authority of a maximum
27 speed limit on a part or extension of a State highway is not effective until it is approved by
28 the State Highway Administration.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
30 October 1, 2025.