

HOUSE BILL 1236

R5

5lr2791
CF 5lr2794

By: **Delegates Arentz, Ghrist, and Jacobs**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Queen Anne's County – Municipalities – Speed Limits**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing municipalities in Queen Anne's County to decrease the
4 maximum speed limit to not less than a certain speed on highways without
5 performing an engineering and traffic investigation; and generally relating to speed
6 limits on highways in municipalities in Queen Anne's County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Transportation
9 Section 21–803(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Transportation**

15 21–803.

16 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) through ~~[(5)]~~ (6) of this
17 subsection, if, on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, a local authority
18 determines that any maximum speed limit specified in this subtitle is greater or less than
19 reasonable or safe under existing conditions on any part of a highway in its jurisdiction, it

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.



1 may establish a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that part of the highway,
2 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 (2) An engineering and traffic investigation is not required to conform a
10 posted maximum speed limit in effect on December 31, 1974, to a different limit specified
11 in § 21-801.1(b) of this subtitle.

12 (3) Calvert County may decrease the maximum speed limit to not less than
13 15 miles per hour on Lore Road and, except for Solomons Island Road, each highway south
14 of Lore Road without performing an engineering and traffic investigation, regardless of
15 whether the highway is inside an urban district.

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

17 1. Anne Arundel County and Montgomery County; and

18 2. Municipalities located in Anne Arundel County and
19 Montgomery County.

20 (ii) A local authority may decrease the maximum speed limit to not
21 less than 15 miles per hour on a highway only after performing an engineering and traffic
22 investigation.

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

26 (5) Baltimore City may, without performing an engineering and traffic
27 investigation:

28 (i) Decrease the maximum speed limit on a highway under its
29 jurisdiction; or

30 (ii) Increase to a previously established level the maximum speed
31 limit on a highway under its jurisdiction.

1 **(6) A MUNICIPALITY LOCATED IN QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY MAY**
2 **DECREASE THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT TO NOT LESS THAN 15 MILES PER HOUR ON**
3 **A HIGHWAY WITHOUT PERFORMING AN ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC**
4 **INVESTIGATION.**

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

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.