

SENATE BILL 471

R5

5lr2535
CF HB 463

By: **Senator Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2025

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Motor Vehicle Administration – 3–Hour Roadway Safety Driving**
3 **Education Program**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to establish a 3–hour
5 Roadway Safety Driving Education Program for certain applicants for and holders
6 of driver’s licenses; and generally relating to the 3–hour Roadway Safety Driving
7 Education Program.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Transportation
10 Section 16–105(f), 16–212, and 16–212.1
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Transportation**

16 16–105.

17 (f) (1) Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, the Administration may
18 issue a driver’s license, without first issuing a learner’s instructional permit and without a
19 waiting period, to any individual who:

20 (i) Has been licensed regularly to drive in this State, in another
21 state or country, or by the armed forces of the United States, if the Administration is
22 satisfied that the applicant’s experience in driving vehicles of the type that would be
23 authorized by the license class applied for is sufficient to justify issuance of the license
24 without further training; or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) Has successfully completed the Administration approved basic
2 motorcycle safety course.

3 (2) The Administration may:

4 (i) Examine the applicant's driving as provided in § 16–110 of this
5 subtitle; or

6 (ii) Issue a provisional license, if appropriate, under § 16–111(e) of
7 this subtitle.

8 (3) An individual who never held a driver's license issued by the
9 Administration or by another state, but who otherwise may obtain a license under
10 paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection without first obtaining a learner's instructional permit,
11 shall successfully complete a 3-hour [alcohol and drug education program] **ROADWAY**
12 **SAFETY DRIVING EDUCATION PROGRAM** established by the Administration under §
13 16–212.1 of this title before qualifying for a driver's license.

14 16–212.

15 (a) The Administration may conduct:

16 (1) A driver improvement program, including a driver improvement
17 program designed specifically for young drivers; and

18 (2) [An alcohol education program] **THE 3-HOUR ROADWAY SAFETY**
19 **DRIVING EDUCATION PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THE ADMINISTRATION UNDER §**
20 **16–212.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

21 (b) (1) The purpose of the programs authorized under this section is to provide
22 driver rehabilitation **AND EDUCATION.**

23 (2) The Administration shall determine the content of the programs.

24 (c) If an individual is convicted of one or more moving violations:

25 (1) Notwithstanding item (2) of this subsection, after a hearing as provided
26 in Title 12, Subtitle 2 of this article, as a condition of reinstatement of a driver's license,
27 the Administration may require an individual to attend a driver improvement program or
28 [alcohol education program] **THE 3-HOUR ROADWAY SAFETY DRIVING EDUCATION**
29 **PROGRAM;** or

30 (2) A court may require an individual to attend a driver improvement
31 program or [alcohol education program] **THE 3-HOUR ROADWAY SAFETY DRIVING**
32 **EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

1 (d) In carrying out an order of the court, a probation officer or health department
2 officer may assign an individual to attend a driver improvement program or [alcohol
3 education program] **THE 3-HOUR ROADWAY SAFETY DRIVING EDUCATION**
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 (e) (1) An individual who attends a program under this section shall pay, in
6 advance, a fee as provided in this subsection.

7 (2) The Administration shall set a reasonable fee based on the costs of
8 operating the programs authorized by this section.

9 (3) The funds collected by the Administration under this subsection may
10 not be credited to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account for distribution under
11 § 8-403 or § 8-404 of this article.

12 (f) (1) The Administration may waive attendance at [an alcohol education
13 program] **THE 3-HOUR ROADWAY SAFETY DRIVING EDUCATION PROGRAM** conducted
14 by the Administration if an individual attends a private [alcohol education program or an
15 alcohol education program] **ROADWAY SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM OR A ROADWAY**
16 **SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM** provided by a political subdivision of the State that is
17 approved by the Behavioral Health Administration and the Administration.

18 (2) The Administration may waive attendance at a driver improvement
19 program conducted by the Administration if an individual attends a private driver
20 improvement program or a driver improvement program provided by a political subdivision
21 of the State that is approved by the Administration.

22 (3) The Administration shall establish criteria for approving private
23 providers of [alcohol education] **ROADWAY SAFETY EDUCATION** or driver improvement
24 programs provided by a political subdivision of the State.

25 (4) Upon application for approval to provide the programs allowed under
26 this section, a private provider shall pay an application fee established by the
27 Administration.

28 16-212.1.

29 (a) The Administration, in cooperation with the Behavioral Health
30 Administration, shall establish [an alcohol and drug education program] **THE 3-HOUR**
31 **ROADWAY SAFETY DRIVING EDUCATION PROGRAM** to educate driver's license
32 applicants who are subject to the provisions of § 16-105(f)(3) of this title. This program also
33 shall be included as part of the driver education course established under Subtitle 5 of this
34 title.

35 [(b) The program shall provide 3 hours of instruction in:

1 (1) The hazards of driving while impaired or intoxicated;

2 (2) The criminal penalties and administrative sanctions for alcohol and
3 drug related motor vehicle violations;

4 (3) The medical, biological, and psychological effects of the consumption of
5 alcohol and drugs and their impact on the operation of a motor vehicle; and

6 (4) Any other drug and alcohol related information that the Administration
7 determines would be beneficial to applicants for a driver's license.

8 (c) The Administration shall adopt regulations establishing criteria for certifying
9 a private entity to offer the alcohol and drug education program established under this
10 section.]

11 **(B) THE 3-HOUR ROADWAY SAFETY DRIVING EDUCATION PROGRAM**
12 **SHALL PROVIDE INSTRUCTION ON:**

13 **(1) UNDERSTANDING SIGNS, SIGNALS, AND PAVEMENT MARKINGS;**

14 **(2) DANGEROUS DRIVING BEHAVIORS;**

15 **(3) WORK ZONE SAFETY;**

16 **(4) THE HAZARDS OF DRIVING WHILE IMPAIRED OR INTOXICATED;**

17 **(5) THE CRIMINAL PENALTIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS FOR**
18 **ALCOHOL- AND DRUG-RELATED MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS;**

19 **(6) THE MEDICAL, BIOLOGICAL, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF**
20 **THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE**
21 **OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE;**

22 **(7) THE MARYLAND DRIVING RECORD AND POINTS SYSTEMS; AND**

23 **(8) ANY OTHER ROADWAY SAFETY-RELATED INFORMATION THAT**
24 **THE ADMINISTRATION DETERMINES WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO APPLICANTS FOR A**
25 **DRIVER'S LICENSE.**

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