

# HOUSE BILL 253

R7

(PRE-FILED)

6lr0164  
CF SB 149

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By: **Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request –  
Departmental – Transportation)**

Requested: September 29, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 26, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Heavy Weight Port Corridor Permits – Regulations**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the requirements for regulations related to the issuance of a  
4 heavy weight port corridor permit; and generally relating to heavy weight port  
5 corridor permits.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Transportation  
8 Section 24–113.3  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Transportation**

14 24–113.3.

15 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Secretary, by regulation,  
16 may determine that a vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting manifested  
17 international freight as the only load of the vehicle or combination of vehicles in a sealed,

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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 seagoing container on a semitrailer is transporting an indivisible load, provided that the  
2 vehicle or combination of vehicles is issued a permit under this section and:

3 (1) Is carrying not more than 100,000 pounds gross maximum vehicle  
4 weight;

5 (2) Has the minimum number of axles required by the permit;

6 (3) Does not exceed the maximum axle weight or axle spacing  
7 requirements, as established by regulation or specified on the permit;

8 (4) Is traveling only during the hours as established by regulation or  
9 specified on the permit;

10 (5) Adheres to a unique maximum speed limit specified on the permit; and

11 (6) Is traveling only on State or county highways that are[:

12 (i) On] **ON** the specific route ~~established by regulation and specified~~  
13 **IDENTIFIED** on the permit between the Seagirt Marine Terminal and a destination  
14 authorized by the Secretary, with no deviation from the specific route[: and

15 (ii) Specifically designated by the Secretary as being part of a “heavy  
16 weight port corridor”].

17 (b) (1) The Secretary shall adopt regulations, consistent with this section, for  
18 the issuance of permits for vehicles described under subsection (a) of this section.

19 (2) The regulations adopted under this subsection:

20 (i) May set permit fees; [and]

21 (ii) Shall establish axle and gross weight requirements, ~~routes,~~ and  
22 other necessary criteria; **AND**

23 **(III) SHALL ESTABLISH THE DESTINATIONS TO WHICH A**  
24 **VEHICLE OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES MAY TRAVEL FROM THE SEAGIRT MARINE**  
25 **TERMINAL UNDER A PERMIT.**

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
27 1, 2026.