

# SENATE BILL 936

R5  
HB 206/25 – ENT

6lr1358  
CF HB 1113

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By: **Senators West, Smith, and Waldstreicher**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2026

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Bus Obstruction Monitoring Systems and Bus Stop Zones**

3 FOR the purpose of replacing references to a bus lane monitoring system with references  
4 to a bus obstruction monitoring system; prohibiting a person from stopping,  
5 standing, or parking a vehicle in a bus stop zone if a transit vehicle is present, subject  
6 to certain exceptions; and generally relating to bus lane and bus stop zone  
7 enforcement.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings  
10 Section 7–302(e)(2) and 10–311(e) and (h)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – General Provisions  
15 Section 4–321(b)(7)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
19 Article – Transportation  
20 Section 7–101(a) and (n), 21–1003(a), and 21–1133  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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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 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 2 Article – Transportation  
 3 Section 12–113.1(b)(7) and 21–1134  
 4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 5 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

6 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~  
 7 ~~Article – Transportation~~  
 8 ~~Section 21–1003(a) and 21–1133~~  
 9 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
 10 ~~(2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

11 BY adding to  
 12 Article – Transportation  
 13 Section 21–1003(gg)  
 14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 15 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

19 7–302.

20 (e) (2) (i) A citation issued as the result of any of the following systems or  
 21 cameras controlled by a political subdivision shall provide that, in an uncontested case, the  
 22 penalty shall be paid directly to that political subdivision:

- 23 1. A vehicle height monitoring system;
- 24 2. A traffic control signal monitoring system;
- 25 3. A speed monitoring system;
- 26 4. A work zone speed control system;
- 27 5. A stop sign monitoring system;
- 28 6. A school bus monitoring camera;
- 29 7. A bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system; or
- 30 8. A noise abatement monitoring system.

1 (ii) A citation issued as the result of any of the following systems or  
2 cameras controlled by a political subdivision shall provide that, in a contested case, the  
3 penalty shall be paid directly to the District Court:

- 4 1. A vehicle height monitoring system;
- 5 2. A traffic control signal monitoring system;
- 6 3. A speed monitoring system;
- 7 4. A work zone speed control system;
- 8 5. A stop sign monitoring system;
- 9 6. A school bus monitoring camera;
- 10 7. A bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system; or
- 11 8. A noise abatement monitoring system.

12 (iii) A citation issued as the result of any of the following systems or  
13 cameras controlled by a State agency shall provide that, in an uncontested or contested  
14 case, the penalty shall be paid directly to the District Court:

- 15 1. A traffic control signal monitoring system;
- 16 2. A work zone speed control system;
- 17 3. A speed monitoring system; or
- 18 4. A bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system.

19 10-311.

20 (e) A recorded image of a motor vehicle produced by a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION**  
21 monitoring system in accordance with § 21-1134 of the Transportation Article is admissible  
22 in a proceeding concerning a civil citation issued under that section for a violation of §  
23 **21-1003(GG) OR** § 21-1133 of the Transportation Article without authentication.

24 (h) In any other judicial proceeding, a recorded image produced by a vehicle  
25 height monitoring system, traffic control signal monitoring system, speed monitoring  
26 system, work zone speed control system, stop sign monitoring system, school bus  
27 monitoring camera, or bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system or a recorded image  
28 and any relevant recorded audio produced by a noise abatement monitoring system in  
29 conjunction with a noise measuring device is admissible as otherwise provided by law.

**Article – General Provisions**

4–321.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a custodian shall deny inspection of recorded images produced by:

(7) a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system operated under § 21–1134 of the Transportation Article;

**Article – Transportation**7–101.

(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(n) (1) “Transit corridor” means a geographically bound set of two or more contiguous subway, light rail, bus rapid transit, or bus transit stations.

(2) “Transit corridor” includes a geographically bound set of two or more contiguous bus transit stations that have fixed–route bus service that operates on a roadway dedicated to buses.

12–113.1.

(b) This section applies to:

(7) Bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring systems under § 21–1134 of this article;

21–1003.

(a) The provisions of this section apply except as necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or traffic control device.

**(GG) (1) (I) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “BUS STOP ZONE” MEANS THE PORTION OF ROADWAY DESIGNATED OR USED FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING PASSENGERS FROM A BUS OR TRANSIT VEHICLE.**

**(II) “BUS STOP ZONE” INCLUDES:**

**1. AN AREA FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING PASSENGERS FROM A BUS OR TRANSIT VEHICLE THAT IS DESIGNATED BY SIGNAGE OR PAVEMENT MARKINGS OR IDENTIFIED IN A TRANSIT AGENCY’S PUBLISHED SCHEDULE OR ROUTE MAP;**



1 (i) A law enforcement agency of the State or a local political  
2 subdivision that is authorized to issue a citation for a violation of the Maryland Vehicle  
3 Law or of local traffic laws or regulations;

4 (ii) For a municipal corporation that does not maintain a police force,  
5 an agency established or designated by the municipal corporation to use bus [lane]  
6 **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring systems in accordance with this section; or

7 (iii) A local, regional, or statewide transit agency or authority,  
8 including the Maryland Transit Administration and the Washington Metropolitan Area  
9 Transit Authority.

10 (3) “Bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system” means an enforcement  
11 system, including an onboard or fixed monitoring system, that is designed to capture a  
12 recorded image of a motor vehicle during the commission of a violation.

13 (4) “Bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system operator” means a  
14 representative of an agency or a contractor that operates a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION**  
15 monitoring system.

16 (5) (i) “Owner” means the registered owner of a motor vehicle or a  
17 lessee of a motor vehicle under a lease of 6 months or more.

18 (ii) “Owner” does not include:

19 1. A motor vehicle leasing company; or

20 2. A holder of a special registration plate issued under Title  
21 13, Subtitle 9, Part III of this article.

22 (6) “Recorded image” means an image recorded by a bus [lane]  
23 **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system:

24 (i) On:

25 1. A photograph;

26 2. A microphotograph;

27 3. An electronic image;

28 4. Videotape; or

29 5. Any other visual medium; and

1 (ii) Showing a motor vehicle and, on at least one image or portion of  
2 the recording, clearly identifying the registration plate number of the motor vehicle.

3 (7) "Violation" means a violation of:

4 (I) § 21-1003(GG) OF THIS TITLE; OR

5 (II) § 21-1133 of this subtitle.

6 (b) (1) An agency may use a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system that  
7 meets the requirements of this subsection to record the images of motor vehicles during the  
8 commission of a violation.

9 (2) A bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system may be used only:

10 (i) When being operated by a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring  
11 system operator;

12 (ii) If, in accordance with the Maryland Manual on Uniform Traffic  
13 Control Devices:

14 1. A conspicuous road sign is placed at a reasonable distance  
15 consistent with national guidelines alerting drivers that a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION**  
16 monitoring system may be in operation in the bus lane; or

17 2. A conspicuous sign is affixed to the transit vehicle alerting  
18 drivers that the vehicle is equipped with a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system;  
19 and

20 (iii) If the **BUS OBSTRUCTION MONITORING** system produces video  
21 for each alleged violation that allows for the differentiation between a vehicle that is  
22 driving, standing, or parked in a dedicated bus lane in violation of § 21-1003(GG) OF THIS  
23 **TITLE OR § 21-1133** of this subtitle and a vehicle that is lawfully stopped or moving in  
24 order to execute a right turn at an intersection.

25 (3) (i) A bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system may retain only  
26 the images of vehicles that contain evidence of a violation.

27 (ii) Recorded images from a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring  
28 system:

29 1. That contain evidence of a violation may be retained for  
30 up to 6 months or 60 days after final disposition of the citation, whichever is later;

31 2. That do not contain evidence of a violation shall be  
32 destroyed within 15 days after the recorded images were first captured; and



1 (e) (1) Unless the driver of the motor vehicle received a citation from a police  
2 officer at the time of the violation, the owner or, in accordance with subsection (h)(5) of this  
3 section, the driver of a motor vehicle is subject to a civil penalty if the motor vehicle is  
4 recorded by a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system during the commission of a  
5 violation.

6 (2) A civil penalty under this section may not exceed \$75.

7 (3) For purposes of this section, the District Court shall prescribe:

8 (i) A uniform citation form consistent with subsection (f)(1) of this  
9 section and § 7–302 of the Courts Article; and

10 (ii) A civil penalty, which shall be indicated on the citation, to be paid  
11 by persons who choose to prepay the civil penalty without appearing in District Court.

12 (f) (1) Subject to the provisions of paragraphs (2) through (5) of this  
13 subsection, an agency or a contractor of the agency shall mail to the owner liable under  
14 subsection (e) of this section a citation that shall include:

15 (i) The name and address of the registered owner of the vehicle;

16 (ii) The registration number of the motor vehicle involved in the  
17 violation;

18 (iii) The violation charged;

19 (iv) To the extent possible, the location of the violation;

20 (v) The date and time of the violation;

21 (vi) A copy of the recorded image;

22 (vii) The amount of the civil penalty imposed and the date by which  
23 the civil penalty must be paid;

24 (viii) A signed statement by a police officer employed by the local law  
25 enforcement agency that, based on inspection of the recorded images, the motor vehicle was  
26 being operated during the commission of a violation;

27 (ix) A statement that the recorded image is evidence of a violation;  
28 and

29 (x) Information advising the person alleged to be liable under this  
30 section:

1                   1.     Of the manner and time in which liability as alleged in the  
2 citation may be contested in the District Court; and

3                   2.     That failure to pay the civil penalty or to contest liability  
4 in a timely manner is an admission of liability and may result in refusal or suspension of  
5 the motor vehicle registration.

6                   (2)    (i)     Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, an agency may  
7 mail a warning notice in place of a citation to the owner liable under subsection (e) of this  
8 section.

9                   (ii)    An agency shall mail a warning notice in place of a citation to an  
10 owner liable under subsection (e) of this section for a violation recorded by a bus [lane]  
11 **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system during the first 45 days that the bus [lane]  
12 **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system is in operation.

13                  (3)    (i)     Before mailing a citation to a motor vehicle rental company liable  
14 under subsection (e) of this section, an agency shall mail a notice to the motor vehicle rental  
15 company stating that a citation will be mailed to the motor vehicle rental company unless,  
16 within 45 days after receiving the notice, the motor vehicle rental company provides the  
17 agency with:

18                   1.     A statement made under oath that states the name and  
19 last known mailing address of the individual driving or renting the motor vehicle when the  
20 violation occurred;

21                   2.     A.     A statement made under oath that states that the  
22 motor vehicle rental company is unable to determine who was driving or renting the vehicle  
23 at the time the violation occurred because the motor vehicle was stolen at the time of the  
24 violation; and

25                   B.     A copy of the police report associated with the motor  
26 vehicle theft claimed under item A of this item; or

27                   3.     Payment for the penalty associated with the violation.

28                   (ii)    An agency may not mail a citation to a motor vehicle rental  
29 company liable under subsection (e) of this section if the motor vehicle rental company  
30 complies with subparagraph (i) of this paragraph.

31                   (4)     Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection and subsection  
32 (h)(5) of this section, a citation issued under this section shall be mailed not later than 2  
33 weeks after the alleged violation.

34                   (5)     A person who receives a citation under paragraph (1) of this subsection  
35 may:

1 (i) Pay the civil penalty, in accordance with instructions on the  
2 citation, directly to the local jurisdiction; or

3 (ii) Elect to stand trial in the District Court for the alleged violation.

4 (6) To mail the citation or warning notice, the Baltimore City Police  
5 Department or a contractor of the police department shall use:

6 (i) The current mailing address on file with the Administration; or

7 (ii) If a mailing address is unavailable, the current residential  
8 address on file with the Administration.

9 (g) (1) (i) A certificate alleging that a violation occurred, sworn to or  
10 affirmed by a duly authorized law enforcement officer employed or under contract with an  
11 agency, based on inspection of a recorded image produced by a bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION**  
12 monitoring system, shall be evidence of the facts contained in the certificate and shall be  
13 admissible in any proceeding concerning the alleged violation without the presence or  
14 testimony of the bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system operator who performed the  
15 requirements under subsection (c) of this section.

16 (ii) If a person who received a citation under this section desires a  
17 bus [lane] **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system operator to be present and testify at trial,  
18 the person shall notify the court and the agency in writing not later than 20 days before  
19 trial.

20 (iii) 1. On request of a person who received a citation under this  
21 section, video of the alleged violation shall be made available to the person.

22 2. Video evidence made available under subparagraph 1  
23 of this subparagraph shall be admitted as evidence in any court proceeding for a violation  
24 [of § 21–1133 of this subtitle].

25 (2) Adjudication of liability shall be based on a preponderance of evidence.

26 (h) (1) The District Court may consider in defense of an alleged violation:

27 (i) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, that the motor vehicle  
28 or registration plates of the motor vehicle were stolen before the violation occurred and  
29 were not under the control or in the possession of the owner at the time of the violation;

30 (ii) Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, evidence that the  
31 person named in the citation was not operating the vehicle at the time of the violation; and

32 (iii) Any other issues and evidence that the District Court deems  
33 relevant.

1           (2) To demonstrate that the motor vehicle or the registration plates were  
2 stolen before the violation occurred and were not under the control or in the possession of  
3 the owner at the time of the violation, the owner shall submit proof that a police report  
4 about the stolen motor vehicle or registration plates was filed in a timely manner.

5           (3) To satisfy the evidentiary burden under paragraph (1)(ii) of this  
6 subsection, the person named in the citation shall provide to the District Court evidence to  
7 the satisfaction of the District Court of who was operating the vehicle at the time of the  
8 violation, including, at a minimum, the operator's name and current address.

9           (4) (i) This paragraph applies only to a citation that involves a Class E  
10 (truck) vehicle with a registered gross weight of 26,001 pounds or more, a Class F (tractor)  
11 vehicle, a Class G (trailer) vehicle operated in combination with a Class F (tractor) vehicle,  
12 and a Class P (passenger bus) vehicle.

13           (ii) To satisfy the evidentiary burden under paragraph (1)(ii) of this  
14 subsection, the person named in a citation described under subparagraph (i) of this  
15 paragraph may provide to the District Court a letter, sworn to or affirmed by the person  
16 and mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested, that:

17           1. States that the person named in the citation was not  
18 operating the vehicle at the time of the violation; and

19           2. Provides the name, address, and driver's license  
20 identification number of the person who was operating the vehicle at the time of the  
21 violation.

22           (5) (i) If the District Court finds that the person named in the citation  
23 was not operating the vehicle at the time of the violation or receives evidence under  
24 paragraph (4)(ii)2 of this subsection identifying the person driving the vehicle at the time  
25 of the violation, the clerk of the court shall provide to the agency a copy of any evidence  
26 substantiating who was operating the vehicle at the time of the violation.

27           (ii) On the receipt of substantiating evidence from the District Court  
28 under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, an agency may issue a new citation as provided  
29 in subsection (f) of this section to the person that the evidence indicates was operating the  
30 vehicle at the time of the violation.

31           (iii) A citation issued under subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph shall  
32 be mailed not later than 2 weeks after receipt of the evidence from the District Court.

33           (i) If the civil penalty is not paid and the violation is not contested, the  
34 Administration may refuse to register or reregister the motor vehicle.

35           (j) A violation for which a civil penalty is imposed under this section:

1 (1) Is not a moving violation for the purpose of assessing points under §  
 2 16–402 of this article and may not be recorded by the Administration on the driving record  
 3 of the owner or driver of the vehicle;

4 (2) May be treated as a parking violation for purposes of § 26–305 of this  
 5 article; and

6 (3) May not be considered in the provision of motor vehicle insurance  
 7 coverage.

8 (k) (1) In consultation with the appropriate local government agencies, the  
 9 Chief Judge of the District Court shall adopt procedures for the issuance of citations, trials  
 10 for violations, and the collection of civil penalties imposed under this section.

11 (2) The standards and requirements for the use, processing, and disposal  
 12 of recorded images and associated data established under § 12–113.1 of this article apply  
 13 to citations issued under this section.

14 (l) (1) An agency or a contractor designated by the agency shall administer  
 15 and process civil citations issued under this section in coordination with the District Court.

16 (2) If a contractor provides, deploys, or operates a bus [lane]  
 17 **OBSTRUCTION** monitoring system for an agency, the contractor’s fee may not be contingent  
 18 on the number of citations issued or paid.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the publisher of the  
 20 Annotated Code of Maryland, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the  
 21 Department of Legislative Services, shall correct, with no further action required by the  
 22 General Assembly, cross–references and terminology rendered incorrect by this Act. The  
 23 publisher shall adequately describe any correction that is made in an editor’s note following  
 24 the section affected.

25 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
 26 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.