

## **HopSkipDrive SB292 Amendment**

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

### **Chapter 197 of the Acts of 2021**

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 18 , 2021. [It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2026, 19 this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.]

### **Chapter 198 of the Acts of 2021**

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 23 , 2021. [It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.]

## **Article - Education**

### **§ 7–801.**

(c) (1) A county board may provide transportation to and from school using a vehicle other than a Type I or Type II school vehicle, as defined in § 11–154 of the Transportation Article, when a school vehicle cannot reasonably be provided for the following public school students:

- (i) Preschool–age students;
- (ii) Students with disabilities;
- (iii) Homeless youth;
- (iv) Children in foster care;
- (v) Students without access to school buses;
- (vi) Students in a nonpublic school placement; or
- (vii) Students in dual enrollment programs, work programs, or other educational programs based off the school campus.

(2) A county board may provide transportation in accordance with this subsection to a particular student group that is not listed under paragraph (1) of this subsection through a written determination by the county board.

(3) The Department, in consultation with county boards and the Motor Vehicle Administration, shall adopt regulations establishing minimum vehicle and driver safety standards for transportation provided in accordance with this subsection.

**(4) (I) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, A COUNTY BOARD MAY CONTRACT WITH A TRANSPORTATION SERVICE PROVIDER THAT IS REGULATED BY**

**THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO TRANSPORT TWO OR FEWER STUDENTS SIMULTANEOUSLY, PROVIDED THAT THE DRIVER OF THE VEHICLE HAS SATISFIED THE BACKGROUND CHECK SET FORTH UNDER [§ 6-113.2](#) OF THIS ARTICLE AND HAS COMPLETED A STATE AND NATIONAL FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS CHECK;**

**(II) THE VEHICLE USED BY A PROVIDER UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE DESIGNED TO SEAT NOT MORE THAN 10 INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING THE DRIVER AND SHALL MEET ALL APPLICABLE SAFETY STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FOR THE SPECIFIC CLASS OF VEHICLE OPERATED.**

**(III) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL PREVENT A COUNTY BOARD FROM ADOPTING ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS WHEN CONTRACTING WITH A TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER THAT IS REGULATED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.**

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