

SENATE BILL 158

R5, R1
SB 298/13 – JPR

4lr0771

By: **Senators Edwards, Astle, Brinkley, and Shank**

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2014

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Maximum Speed Limits – Interstate 68**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that the maximum speed limit on Interstate 68 may
4 be up to a certain number of miles an hour; and generally relating to maximum
5 speed limits.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article – Transportation
8 Section 21–801.1
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Transportation**

14 21–801.1.

15 (a) Unless there is a special danger that requires a lower speed to comply
16 with § 21–801 of this subtitle, the limits specified in this section or otherwise
17 established under this subtitle are maximum lawful speeds. A person may not drive a
18 vehicle on a highway at a speed that exceeds these limits.

19 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the maximum speed limits
20 are:

21 (1) 15 miles an hour in alleys in Baltimore County;

22 (2) 30 miles an hour on:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) All highways in a business district; and
- 2 (ii) Undivided highways in a residential district;
- 3 (3) 35 miles an hour on divided highways in a residential district;
- 4 (4) 50 miles an hour on undivided highways in other locations; and
- 5 (5) 55 miles an hour on divided highways in other locations.

6 (c) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, a posted maximum
7 speed limit lawfully in effect on December 31, 1974, is a maximum lawful speed even if
8 it differs from a limit specified in subsection (b) of this section.

9 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, a maximum speed
10 limit specified in subsection (b) of this section or in effect under subsection (c) of this
11 section may be altered as provided in this subtitle.

12 (e) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, **BUT EXCEPT**
13 **AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION**, a maximum speed limit of
14 more than 55 miles an hour may not be established or continued on any highway in
15 this State that:

16 (i) Is not an interstate highway or an expressway; or

17 (ii) Would subject the State to federal funding sanctions under
18 23 United States Code § 154.

19 (2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection, **AND**
20 **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION**, a maximum
21 speed limit of more than 65 miles an hour may not be established on any highway in
22 the State.

23 **(3) THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON INTERSTATE 68 MAY BE UP**
24 **TO 70 MILES AN HOUR.**

25 (f) (1) Unless otherwise posted on a public road in a residential
26 subdivision, in residential subdivisions in St. Mary's County, a posted speed limit on a
27 main access road applies to all public roads in the residential subdivision, even if the
28 posted speed limit on the main access road is less than 30 miles per hour.

29 (2) The provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection do not apply
30 when a through road traverses a residential subdivision. The maximum speed limit
31 applicable to the subdivision shall be posted on each road exiting off the through road
32 and into the subdivision, along with the posting on the main access road.

1 (3) A maximum speed limit established under this subsection in a
2 residential subdivision shall be based on the subdivision's road design, motor vehicle
3 traffic, and pedestrian safety.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2014.