

SENATE BILL 627

R5

6lr3262
CF 6lr3338

By: **Senator Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2016

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Dangerous Accumulations of Snow and Ice – Removal From**
3 **Exposed Vehicle Surfaces**

4 FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person from operating or towing a vehicle without
5 removing from exposed vehicle surfaces accumulated snow and ice; prohibiting a
6 person from committing a violation of this Act that contributes to an accident
7 resulting in property damage or the death of or serious bodily injury to another;
8 establishing certain penalties; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the
9 removal of snow and ice from exposed vehicle surfaces.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Transportation

12 Section 21–1130

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Transportation**

18 **21–1130.**

19 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “EXPOSED VEHICLE SURFACE” INCLUDES FOR A**
20 **VEHICLE:**

21 **(1) THE HOOD;**

22 **(2) THE TRUNK;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) THE WINDSHIELD;**

2 **(4) EACH WINDOW;**

3 **(5) THE ROOF;**

4 **(6) THE CAB OF A COMMERCIAL OR NONCOMMERCIAL TRUCK; AND**

5 **(7) THE TOP OF:**

6 **(I) A TRAILER OR SEMITRAILER BEING TOWED BY A MOTOR**
7 **VEHICLE; AND**

8 **(II) A COMMERCIAL TRAILER OR SEMITRAILER.**

9 **(B) A PERSON MAY NOT OPERATE OR TOW A VEHICLE WITHOUT REMOVING**
10 **FROM EXPOSED VEHICLE SURFACES, BEFORE OPERATION OR TOWING,**
11 **ACCUMULATED SNOW AND ICE THAT POSES A THREAT TO PERSONS OR PROPERTY.**

12 **(C) (1) A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION**
13 **WHILE OPERATING OR TOWING A NONCOMMERCIAL VEHICLE IS SUBJECT TO:**

14 **(I) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$25;**

15 **(II) FOR A SECOND OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$50;**

16 **(III) FOR A THIRD OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$100; AND**

17 **(IV) FOR A FOURTH OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$200.**

18 **(2) A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION**
19 **WHILE OPERATING OR TOWING A COMMERCIAL VEHICLE IS SUBJECT TO:**

20 **(I) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$75;**

21 **(II) FOR A SECOND OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$150;**

22 **(III) FOR A THIRD OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$300;**

23 **(IV) FOR A FOURTH OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$600; AND**

24 **(V) FOR A FIFTH OR SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE, A FINE OF \$1,000.**

1 **(3) (I) A PERSON MAY NOT COMMIT A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION**
2 **(B) OF THIS SECTION THAT CONTRIBUTES TO AN ACCIDENT THAT RESULTS IN**
3 **PROPERTY DAMAGE OR THE DEATH OF OR, AS DEFINED IN § 27-113 OF THIS**
4 **ARTICLE, SERIOUS BODILY INJURY TO ANOTHER.**

5 **(II) A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED OF A VIOLATION OF**
6 **SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH IS SUBJECT TO:**

7 **1. FOR A VIOLATION THAT OCCURRED WHILE**
8 **OPERATING OR TOWING A NONCOMMERCIAL VEHICLE, A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN**
9 **\$200 AND NOT MORE THAN \$1,000; OR**

10 **2. FOR A VIOLATION THAT OCCURRED WHILE**
11 **OPERATING OR TOWING A COMMERCIAL VEHICLE, A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$500**
12 **AND NOT MORE THAN \$1,500.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
14 October 1, 2016.