

# HOUSE BILL 1079

R7

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By: **Delegate McMillan**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2017

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Roadways – Crossing by Pedestrians of Roadways – Authority of Local**  
3 **Jurisdictions**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing local jurisdictions to regulate the crossing by pedestrians  
5 of roadways between adjacent intersections at which traffic control signals are not  
6 in operation; and generally relating to the authority of local jurisdictions to regulate  
7 the crossing by pedestrians of roadways.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article – Transportation  
10 Section 21–503  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Transportation  
15 Section 25–102  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Transportation**

21 21–503.

22 (a) If a pedestrian crosses a roadway at any point other than in a marked  
23 crosswalk or in an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, the pedestrian shall yield the  
24 right-of-way to any vehicle approaching on the roadway.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) If a pedestrian crosses a roadway at a point where a pedestrian tunnel or  
2 overhead pedestrian crossing is provided, the pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to  
3 any vehicle approaching on the roadway.

4 (c) Between adjacent intersections at which a traffic control signal is in operation,  
5 a pedestrian may cross a roadway only in a marked crosswalk.

6 (d) A pedestrian may not cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless  
7 authorized by a traffic control device for crossing movements. If authorized to cross  
8 diagonally, a pedestrian may cross only in accordance with the traffic control device.

9 25–102.

10 (a) The provisions of the Maryland Vehicle Law do not prevent a local authority,  
11 in the reasonable exercise of its police power, from exercising the following powers as to  
12 highways under its jurisdiction:

13 (1) Subject to the provisions of § 21–1003.1 of this article, regulating or  
14 prohibiting the stopping, standing, or parking of vehicles;

15 (2) Regulating traffic by means of police officers or traffic control devices;

16 (3) Regulating or prohibiting processions or assemblies on highways;

17 (4) Designating particular highways or separate roadways as one-way  
18 highways and requiring that all vehicles on them move in one specified direction;

19 (5) Regulating the speed and weight of vehicles in public parks;

20 (6) Designating any highway as a through highway or designating any  
21 intersection as a stop intersection or a yield intersection;

22 (7) Restricting the use of highways as provided in Title 24 of this article;

23 (8) Regulating the operation of bicycles, requiring them to be registered,  
24 and imposing a registration fee;

25 (9) Regulating or prohibiting the turning of vehicles or specified types of  
26 vehicles at intersections;

27 (10) Altering speed limits as provided in Title 21, Subtitle 8 of this article;

28 (11) Regulating through truck traffic and prohibiting trucks from using any  
29 highway or alley that is not designated or maintained as a part or extension of the State or  
30 federal highway system, provided the local authority has designated an adequate alternate  
31 route for diverted truck traffic;

1 (12) Adopting any other traffic regulations as specifically authorized in the  
2 Maryland Vehicle Law;

3 (13) Regulating taxi stands, including taxi stands in the middle of a block;

4 (14) (i) Except in Garrett County, designating a certain portion of  
5 highways upon which snowmobiles may travel for the sole purpose of gaining access to  
6 snowmobile trails. However, only those highways which divide snowmobile trails and which  
7 would otherwise obstruct direct access between snowmobile trails may be so designated by  
8 the local authority; and

9 (ii) In Garrett County, permitting a person to cross a highway on a  
10 snowmobile at a right angle, and designating a certain portion of highways upon which  
11 snowmobiles may travel for the sole purpose of gaining access to snowmobile trails;

12 (15) Requiring a motorized minibike to be permitted by the local authority,  
13 and imposing a permit fee;

14 (16) In Allegany County, designating crossings on county highways where a  
15 person operating a golf cart may cross the highway for continued access to any portion of a  
16 golf course;

17 (17) Restricting use of a low speed vehicle on a highway;

18 (18) Authorizing an emergency vehicle not subject to registration to operate  
19 on a highway while performing an emergency service as defined in § 19–103 of this article;  
20 [and]

21 (19) Authorizing a person to cross a highway on an all-terrain vehicle at a  
22 right angle to access a farm or to move from one part of a farm to another part of the same  
23 farm; AND

24 **(20) REGULATING THE CROSSING BY A PEDESTRIAN OF A ROADWAY**  
25 **BETWEEN ADJACENT INTERSECTIONS AT WHICH TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS ARE**  
26 **NOT IN OPERATION.**

27 (b) (1) Unless it first obtains written approval from the State Highway  
28 Administration, a local authority may not place or maintain any stop sign or traffic control  
29 signal that requires the traffic on any State highway to stop before entering or crossing any  
30 intersecting highway.

31 (2) Unless it first obtains written permission from the State Highway  
32 Administration, a local authority may not place or maintain lighting along or at an  
33 intersection with a State highway.

**HOUSE BILL 1079**

1           (c)     An ordinance or regulation adopted under items (4), (5), (6), (7), or (10) of  
2 subsection (a) of this section is not effective until a traffic control device giving notice of the  
3 local traffic regulations is placed on or at the entrances to the highway or its affected part.

4           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
5 October 1, 2017.