

SENATE BILL 865

R5

7lr2125
CF 7lr3489

By: **Senators Klausmeier, Benson, Ferguson, and Robinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2017

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – School Zone Crosswalks – Traffic Control Signals**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Highway Administration or a local authority to
4 place traffic control signals at certain locations in certain school zones; requiring that
5 a traffic control signal placed on a highway under this Act may operate only during
6 certain hours; and generally relating to traffic control signals at school zone
7 crosswalks.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Transportation

10 Section 21–803.1

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Transportation**

16 21–803.1.

17 (a) (1) Subject to subsection (f) of this section, within a half–mile radius of any
18 school, the State Highway Administration or a local authority:

19 (i) May establish a school zone and maximum speed limits
20 applicable in the school zone; and

21 (ii) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, may provide that fines
22 are to be doubled for speeding violations within the school zone.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) (i) The State Highway Administration may establish a school zone
2 under paragraph (1) of this subsection on any State highway or, at the request of a local
3 authority, on any highway under the jurisdiction of the local authority.

4 (ii) A local authority may establish a school zone under paragraph
5 (1) of this subsection on any highway under its jurisdiction.

6 (iii) In Prince George's County, a municipal corporation may
7 establish a school zone under paragraph (1) of this subsection on any highway that:

8 1. Is not under State jurisdiction; and

9 2. Is located within the corporate limits of the municipal
10 corporation.

11 (b) (1) On each highway where a school zone is established under this section,
12 in accordance with specifications of the State Highway Administration, the State Highway
13 Administration or local authority:

14 (i) Shall place signs designating the school zone; and

15 (ii) May place other traffic control devices, including timed flashing
16 warning lights.

17 (2) The signs designating a school zone shall indicate the maximum speed
18 limit applicable in the school zone.

19 (3) The local authority shall pay the State Highway Administration the
20 cost of placing and maintaining signs and other traffic control devices on highways under
21 the jurisdiction of the local authority when the State Highway Administration establishes
22 the school zone at the local authority's request.

23 (4) In Prince George's County, a municipal corporation shall be responsible
24 for the cost of placing and maintaining signs and other traffic control devices for a school
25 zone that the municipal corporation establishes on a highway within its corporate limits.

26 (c) A maximum speed limit in a school zone established under this section is in
27 effect when posted on appropriate signs giving notice of the limit.

28 (d) The fines for speeding in a school zone are double the amount that would
29 otherwise apply if, in accordance with specifications adopted by the State Highway
30 Administration:

31 (1) (i) A sign designating a school zone under this section is equipped
32 with timed flashing warning lights and indicates that fines for speeding are doubled when
33 the lights are activated; and

1 (ii) The lights are activated at the time the violation occurs; or

2 (2) A sign designating a school zone under this section indicates that fines
3 for speeding are doubled during school hours.

4 (e) A person may not drive a motor vehicle at a speed exceeding the posted speed
5 limit within a school zone established in accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

6 (f) In any school zone where a school crossing guard is posted to assist students
7 in crossing a highway, the maximum speed limit may not exceed 35 miles per hour in the
8 school zone during the hours posted on signs designating the school zone.

9 **(G) (1) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION OR A LOCAL AUTHORITY**
10 **SHALL PLACE A TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL AT ANY MARKED CROSSWALK ON A**
11 **HIGHWAY IN A SCHOOL ZONE FOR WHICH THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT IS AT LEAST**
12 **35 MILES PER HOUR.**

13 **(2) A TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL PLACED IN A SCHOOL ZONE UNDER**
14 **THIS SUBSECTION MAY OPERATE ONLY DURING THE HOURS POSTED ON SIGNS**
15 **DESIGNATING THE SCHOOL ZONE.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2017.