

# HOUSE BILL 279

R4, R5  
HB 23/20 – ENT

(PRE-FILED)

1lr1240  
CF SB 312

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By: **Dorchester County Delegation**

Requested: October 29, 2020

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicle Registration – Exception for Golf Carts – Hoopers Island and**  
3 **Taylors Island**

4 FOR the purpose of creating an exception from motor vehicle registration requirements  
5 under certain circumstances for golf carts on Upper Hoopers Island, Middle Hoopers  
6 Island, or Taylors Island; providing that a person who operates a golf cart on a  
7 highway on Upper Hoopers Island, Middle Hoopers Island, or Taylors Island may  
8 operate the golf cart only on certain roads at certain times and only if the golf cart is  
9 equipped with certain lighting devices; requiring a person who operates a golf cart  
10 on a highway on Upper Hoopers Island, Middle Hoopers Island, or Taylors Island to  
11 keep as far to the right as feasible and possess a valid driver's license; authorizing  
12 the County Council of Dorchester County to designate highways on which a person  
13 may operate a golf cart on Upper Hoopers Island, Middle Hoopers Island, or Taylors  
14 Island; and generally relating to an exception to motor vehicle registration  
15 requirements for golf carts on Upper Hoopers Island, Middle Hoopers Island, or  
16 Taylors Island.

17 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
18 Article – Transportation  
19 Section 13–402(a)(1)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2020 Replacement Volume)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
23 Article – Transportation  
24 Section 13–402(c)(12)  
25 Annotated Code of Maryland  
26 (2020 Replacement Volume)

27 BY adding to

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Article – Transportation  
2 Section 21–104.5  
3 Annotated Code of Maryland  
4 (2020 Replacement Volume)

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

7 **Article – Transportation**

8 13–402.

9 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or elsewhere in the  
10 Maryland Vehicle Law, each motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer driven on  
11 a highway shall be registered under this subtitle.

12 (c) Registration under this subtitle is not required for:

13 (12) A golf cart that is operated on a highway in accordance with §§ 21–104.2  
14 through [21–104.4] **21–104.5** of this article;

15 **21–104.5.**

16 (A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON WHO  
17 OPERATES A GOLF CART ON A HIGHWAY ON UPPER HOOPERS ISLAND, MIDDLE  
18 HOOPERS ISLAND, OR TAYLORS ISLAND, DORCHESTER COUNTY, WITHOUT  
19 REGISTRATION AS AUTHORIZED UNDER § 13–402(C)(12) OF THIS ARTICLE:

20 (1) MAY OPERATE THE GOLF CART ONLY:

21 (I) ON A HIGHWAY ON WHICH THE MAXIMUM POSTED SPEED  
22 LIMIT DOES NOT EXCEED 30 MILES PER HOUR;

23 (II) BETWEEN DAWN AND DUSK; AND

24 (III) IF THE GOLF CART IS EQUIPPED WITH LIGHTING DEVICES  
25 AS REQUIRED BY THE ADMINISTRATION;

26 (2) SHALL KEEP THE GOLF CART AS FAR TO THE RIGHT OF THE  
27 ROADWAY AS FEASIBLE; AND

28 (3) SHALL POSSESS A VALID DRIVER’S LICENSE.

29 (B) THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY MAY DESIGNATE BY  
30 RESOLUTION THE HIGHWAYS ON UPPER HOOPERS ISLAND, MIDDLE HOOPERS

1 ISLAND, OR TAYLORS ISLAND ON WHICH A PERSON MAY OPERATE A GOLF CART.

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
3 October 1, 2021.