

# HOUSE BILL 494

R5

1lr1811  
CF SB 337

---

By: **Delegate Stewart**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Reckless Driving – Excessive Speeding**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that a person who drives more than a certain amount  
4 above the maximum speed limit is guilty of reckless driving; establishing that a  
5 person charged with reckless driving must appear in court and may not prepay the  
6 fine; making certain stylistic changes; and generally relating to vehicle laws  
7 governing excessive speeding.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Transportation

10 Section 21–901.1

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2020 Replacement Volume)

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 21–901.1.

17 (a) A person is guilty of reckless driving if [he] **THE PERSON** drives a motor  
18 vehicle:

19 (1) In wanton or willful disregard for the safety of persons or property; [or]

20 (2) In a manner that indicates a wanton or willful disregard for the safety  
21 of persons or property; **OR**

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   **(3) AT A SPEED OF 20 MILES PER HOUR OR MORE IN EXCESS OF THE**  
2 **MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT.**

3           (b) A person is guilty of negligent driving if [he] **THE PERSON** drives a motor  
4 vehicle in a careless or imprudent manner that endangers any property or the life or person  
5 of any individual.

6           (c) **(1) A PERSON CHARGED WITH A VIOLATION OF SUBSECTION (A) OF**  
7 **THIS SECTION:**

8                                   **(I) MUST APPEAR IN COURT; AND**

9                                   **(II) MAY NOT PREPAY THE FINE.**

10                   **(2)** A person convicted of a violation of subsection (a) of this section is  
11 subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

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