

SENATE BILL 604

R4, R5

1lr1738
CF HB 575

By: **Senators Hershey and Gallion**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County – Motor Vehicle Registration – Exception for Golf Carts**

3 FOR the purpose of creating an exception from motor vehicle registration requirements
4 under certain circumstances for golf carts in Cecil County; providing that a person
5 who operates a golf cart in Cecil County may operate the golf cart only on certain
6 highways at certain times and only if the golf cart is equipped with certain lighting
7 devices; requiring a person who operates a golf cart on a highway in Cecil County to
8 keep as far to the right of the roadway as feasible and possess a valid driver's license;
9 authorizing Cecil County to designate certain highways on which a person may
10 operate a golf cart; authorizing the governing body of a municipality in Cecil County
11 to designate the highways on which a person may operate a golf cart within the
12 municipality's limits; and generally relating to an exception to motor vehicle
13 registration requirements for golf carts in Cecil County.

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

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
20 Article – Transportation
21 Section 13–402(c)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2020 Replacement Volume)

24 BY adding to
25 Article – Transportation
26 Section 21–104.5
27 Annotated Code of Maryland
28 (2020 Replacement Volume)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Transportation**

4 13–402.

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

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

9 (1) A vehicle that is driven on a highway:

10 (i) In conformity with the provisions of this title relating to
11 manufacturers, transporters, dealers, secured parties, owners or operators of special mobile
12 equipment, or nonresidents; or

13 (ii) Under a temporary registration card issued by the
14 Administration;

15 (2) A vehicle owned and used by the United States, unless an authorized
16 officer or employee of the United States requests registration of the vehicle;

17 (3) A farm tractor or any farm equipment;

18 (4) A vehicle the front or rear wheels of which are lifted from the highway;

19 (5) A towed vehicle that is attached to the towing vehicle by a tow bar and
20 for which no driver is necessary;

21 (6) A vehicle owned by and in the possession of a licensed dealer for purpose
22 of sale;

23 (7) A vehicle owned by a new resident of this State during the first 60 days
24 of residency provided the vehicle displays valid registration issued by the jurisdiction of the
25 resident's former domicile;

26 (8) New vehicles being operated as part of a shuttle, as defined in § 13–626
27 of this title, while following a registered vehicle displaying a shuttle permit issued by the
28 Administration;

29 (9) A vehicle operated in connection with maritime commerce exclusively
30 within any terminal owned or leased by the Maryland Port Administration;

1 (10) A snowmobile that is operated on highways and roadways as prescribed
2 by § 25–102(a)(14) of this article;

3 (11) A golf cart that is operated on a highway on Smith Island, provided that
4 the golf cart is equipped with lighting devices as required by the Administration if it is
5 operated on a highway between dusk and dawn;

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

8 (13) A golf cart that is operated on an Allegany County highway as allowed
9 by the county under § 25–102(a)(16) of this article; or

10 (14) A vehicle owned by an accredited consular or diplomatic officer of a
11 foreign government and operated for official or personal purposes when the vehicle displays
12 a valid diplomatic license plate issued by the United States government.

13 **21–104.5.**

14 (A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON WHO
15 OPERATES A GOLF CART ON A HIGHWAY IN CECIL COUNTY WITHOUT REGISTRATION
16 AS AUTHORIZED UNDER § 13–402(C)(12) OF THIS ARTICLE:

17 (1) MAY OPERATE THE GOLF CART ONLY:

18 (I) ON A HIGHWAY WHERE THE MAXIMUM POSTED SPEED LIMIT
19 DOES NOT EXCEED 30 MILES PER HOUR;

20 (II) BETWEEN DAWN AND DUSK; AND

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

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

25 (3) SHALL POSSESS A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

26 (B) (1) EXCEPT FOR COUNTY HIGHWAYS LOCATED WITHIN A
27 MUNICIPALITY, CECIL COUNTY MAY DESIGNATE COUNTY HIGHWAYS WITHIN THE
28 COUNTY ON WHICH A PERSON MAY OPERATE A GOLF CART.

29 (2) THE GOVERNING BODY OF A MUNICIPALITY IN CECIL COUNTY
30 MAY DESIGNATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL HIGHWAYS WITHIN ITS MUNICIPAL LIMITS
31 ON WHICH A PERSON MAY OPERATE A GOLF CART.

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