

# SENATE BILL 76

R4, R5

2lr1067

(PRE-FILED)

---

By: **Senator Ellis**

Requested: October 29, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

---

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 3, 2022

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicle Registration – Exceptions for Golf Carts and Low Speed Vehicles**  
3 **– Cobb Island**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing exceptions to motor vehicle registration requirements for  
5 golf carts and low speed vehicles on Cobb Island in Charles County, subject to certain  
6 requirements; and generally relating to exceptions to motor vehicle registration  
7 requirements for golf carts and low speed vehicles on Cobb Island.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
9 Article – Transportation  
10 Section 11–130.1 and 13–402(a)(1)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
14 Article – Transportation  
15 Section 13–402(c)  
16 Annotated Code of Maryland  
17 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

18 BY adding to  
19 Article – Transportation  
20 Section 21–104.5 and 21–104.6  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland

---

**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



(2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

**Article – Transportation**

11–130.1.

“Low speed vehicle” means a four–wheeled motor vehicle that has a maximum speed capability that exceeds 20 miles per hour but is less than 25 miles per hour.

13–402.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) A farm tractor or any farm equipment;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

11 (12) A golf cart that is operated on a highway in accordance with [§§  
12 21–104.2 through 21–104.4] **§ 21–104.2, § 21–104.3, § 21–104.4, OR § 21–104.5** of this  
13 article;

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

16 (14) A vehicle owned by an accredited consular or diplomatic officer of a  
17 foreign government and operated for official or personal purposes when the vehicle displays  
18 a valid diplomatic license plate issued by the United States government; **OR**

19 **(15) A LOW SPEED VEHICLE THAT IS OPERATED ON A HIGHWAY IN**  
20 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 21–104.6 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

21 **21–104.5.**

22 **A PERSON WHO OPERATES A GOLF CART ON A HIGHWAY ON COBB ISLAND,**  
23 **CHARLES COUNTY, WITHOUT REGISTRATION AS AUTHORIZED UNDER §**  
24 **13–402(C)(12) OF THIS ARTICLE:**

25 **(1) MAY OPERATE THE GOLF CART ONLY:**

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

28 **(II) BETWEEN DAWN AND DUSK; AND**

29 **(III) IF THE GOLF CART IS EQUIPPED WITH LIGHTING DEVICES**  
30 **AS REQUIRED BY THE ADMINISTRATION;**

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

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

4 **21-104.6.**

5           **A PERSON WHO OPERATES A LOW SPEED VEHICLE ON A HIGHWAY ON COBB**  
6 **ISLAND, CHARLES COUNTY, WITHOUT REGISTRATION AS AUTHORIZED UNDER §**  
7 **13-402(C)(15) OF THIS ARTICLE:**

8           **(1) MAY OPERATE THE LOW SPEED VEHICLE ONLY:**

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

11                   **(II) BETWEEN DAWN AND DUSK; AND**

12                   **(III) IF THE LOW SPEED VEHICLE IS EQUIPPED WITH LIGHTING**  
13 **DEVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE ADMINISTRATION;**

14           **(2) SHALL KEEP THE LOW SPEED VEHICLE AS FAR TO THE RIGHT OF**  
15 **THE ROADWAY AS FEASIBLE; AND**

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

17           **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July**  
18 **1, 2022.**

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House of Delegates.