

SENATE BILL 579

R6

2lr2744
CF 2lr2370

By: **Senator Bailey**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2022

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Equipment – Highway Maintenance and Service – Green Flashing**
3 **Lights**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain highway maintenance and service equipment and
5 vehicles, while in use for snow removal or the protection of highway maintenance
6 workers, to be equipped with and display green flashing lights simultaneously with
7 yellow or amber flashing lights; and generally relating to the use of green flashing
8 lights on highway maintenance and service equipment and vehicles.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Transportation
11 Section 22–218(c)(1)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Transportation
16 Section 22–218(c)(6) and (11) and 22–218.2(a)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Transportation**

22 22–218.

23 (c) (1) A person may not drive or move on any highway any vehicle or
24 equipment that is equipped with or displays any light or signal device designed to emit an
25 oscillating, rotating, blinking, or other type of emission of light, unless designated and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 authorized by the Administrator as indicated in paragraphs (2) through (13) of this
 2 subsection. The provisions of this section do not prohibit the display and use of any lighting
 3 device that may be permitted or required elsewhere in the Maryland Vehicle Law.

4 (6) (I) Service vehicles, waste or recycling collection vehicles, rural
 5 letter carrier vehicles, slow moving farm vehicles, and tow trucks may be equipped with or
 6 display yellow or amber lights or signal devices.

7 (II) **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE EQUIPMENT OR**
 8 **VEHICLES OWNED BY THE STATE OR A LOCAL JURISDICTION, OR OPERATING UNDER**
 9 **A CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OR A LOCAL JURISDICTION, THAT ARE EQUIPPED**
 10 **WITH AND DISPLAYING YELLOW OR AMBER FLASHING LIGHTS WHILE IN USE FOR**
 11 **SNOW REMOVAL OR THE PROTECTION OF HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE WORKERS MAY**
 12 **SIMULTANEOUSLY BE EQUIPPED WITH AND DISPLAY GREEN FLASHING LIGHTS IN A**
 13 **NUMBER UP TO THE NUMBER OF YELLOW OR AMBER FLASHING LIGHTS EQUIPPED**
 14 **AND DISPLAYED.**

15 (11) The yellow or amber lights or signal devices [permitted], **OR YELLOW**
 16 **OR AMBER AND GREEN LIGHTS OR SIGNAL DEVICES, AUTHORIZED** on vehicles under
 17 paragraph (6) of this subsection may be flashed or oscillated or otherwise used only in the
 18 course of official duties, to indicate to the public that the vehicle is a slow moving vehicle
 19 or otherwise is impeding traffic.

20 22-218.2.

21 (a) (1) One or more amber flashing lights may be displayed:

22 [(1)] (I) By a tow truck while at the scene of an accident or a disabled
 23 vehicle or while towing a vehicle; and

24 [(2)] (II) By snow removal and other highway maintenance and service
 25 equipment and escort vehicles.

26 (2) **HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE EQUIPMENT OR VEHICLES**
 27 **OWNED BY THE STATE OR A LOCAL JURISDICTION, OR OPERATING UNDER A**
 28 **CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OR A LOCAL JURISDICTION, MAY DISPLAY GREEN**
 29 **FLASHING LIGHTS ONLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 22-218(C)(6) OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 31 October 1, 2022.