

2022-HB193-E&T-DEL ADAMS-Motor Vehicle Registratio

Uploaded by: Delegate Chris Adams

Position: FAV

CHRISTOPHER T. ADAMS
Legislative District 37B
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot,
and Wicomico Counties

Economic Matters Committee

Subcommittees

Banking, Consumer Protection,
and Commercial Law

Business Regulation

Unemployment Insurance



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 405
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3343 · 301-858-3343
800-492-7122 Ext. 3343
Christopher.Adams@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 193

**Motor Vehicle Registration-Exceptions for Golf Carts-
Hoopers Island and Taylors Island**

- ***Why is the Bill being introduced?***

The bill is being introduced at the request of the Dorchester County Council for the residents of Hoopers Island and Taylors Island.

- ***What does the Bill do?***

This bill allows the residents of Hoopers Island and Taylors Island, who possess a valid driver's license to operate a golf cart on a county highway with a maximum posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour on Upper Hoopers Island, Middle Hoopers Island, and Taylors Island between dawn and dusk.

- ***Why is it important to pass now?***

The local residents of Hoopers Island and Taylors Island have been asking Dorchester County for several years to have the opportunity to use golf carts in their small communities.

County Council Dor Cty - Ltr of Support-E&T-HB193-

Uploaded by: Delegate Chris Adams

Position: FAV

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY

**COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
P.O. BOX 26
CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND 21613
PHONE: (410) 228-1700
FAX: (410) 228-9641**

**JAY L. NEWCOMB, PRESIDENT
LIBBY HANDLEY NAGEL, VICE PRESIDENT
WILLIAM V. NICHOLS
GEORGE L. PFEFFER, JR.
RICKY C. TRAVERS**



**DONNA F. LANE
ACTING COUNTY MANAGER
E. THOMAS MERRYWEATHER
COUNTY ATTORNEY**

January 14, 2022

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Delegate
Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Letter of Support for House Bill 193 Entitled "Motor Vehicle Registration -
Exceptions for Golf Carts - Hoopers Island and Taylors Island"**

Dear Delegate Barve, Chair and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support for House Bill 193 entitled "Motor Vehicle Registration - Exception for Golf Carts - Hoopers Island and Taylors Island" which will authorize the operation of golf carts by an individual who possesses a valid driver's license on a highway on Upper or Lower Hoopers Island and on Taylors Island.

The golf cart must be operated on a highway on which the maximum speed limit does not exceed 30 miles per hour. It shall be equipped with lighting devices for visibility purposes. Also, pursuant to this legislation, since the roads in the Upper and Middle Hoopers Island and Taylors Island are County roads, the County Council of Dorchester County, Maryland may designate, by resolution, the County highways in this area on which a person may operate a golf cart.

The County Council respectfully asks that you look favorably upon House Bill 193. Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter of support. Please contact the Council's Office at (410) 228-1700 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

DORCHESTER COUNTY COUNCIL

Jay L. Newcomb, President

jln/dl

cc: The Honorable Adelaide Eckardt, Senator
The Honorable Christopher T. Adams, Delegate
The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes, Delegate
The Honorable Johnny Mautz, Delegate

HB0193 - MVA - Golf Carts – Hoopers Island and Tay

Uploaded by: Patricia Westervelt

Position: INFO



Larry Hogan
Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford
Lt. Governor
James F. Ports, Jr.
Secretary

February 3, 2022

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Chairman, House Environment and Transportation Committee
251 House Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

Re: Letter of Information – House Bill 193 – Motor Vehicle Registration – Exceptions for Golf Carts – Hoopers Island and Taylors Island

Dear Chairman Barve and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) takes no position on House Bill 193 but offers the following information for the Committee's consideration.

House Bill 193 allows Dorchester County's County Council to designate that certain county highways on Upper Hoopers Island, Middle Hoopers Island, or Taylors Island which have a posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour or lower may allow the operation of golf carts by licensed drivers during certain hours. The golf cart operation is subject to restrictions such as requiring lighting devices, operating it only between dawn and dusk, that the operator must hold a driver's license, and to keep the golf cart as far to the right as feasibly possible.

The Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) does not provide vehicle registration for golf carts in the State, including in the other local jurisdictions on Maryland's eastern shore that already have exemptions for the operation of golf carts on certain highways under certain conditions and meeting certain criteria. State highways crash data reports also do not have a categorization in accident reports that allow tracking of vehicle accidents in the State specifically involving golf carts.

The MDOT MVA thus does not find any impact to operations or to highway safety in the State under House Bill 193. As a result, the MDOT MVA wishes to convey that House Bill 193 represents a local policy change for a local jurisdiction that would match its peers of similar vehicle traffic levels and patterns if enacted by the Maryland General Assembly.

The Maryland Department of Transportation respectfully requests the Committee consider this information when deliberating House Bill 193.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine E. Nizer
Administrator
Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration
410-787-7830

Pilar Helm
Director of Government Affairs
Maryland Department of Transportation
410-865-1090