

HOUSE BILL 193

R5

4lr1403

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegates Lehman and Pena-Melnyk**

Requested: November 1, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 5, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County – Speed Limits – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing Anne Arundel County and municipalities in Anne Arundel
4 County to decrease the maximum speed limit to not less than a certain speed on
5 highways after performing an engineering and traffic investigation; prohibiting
6 Anne Arundel County and municipalities in Anne Arundel County from
7 implementing a new speed monitoring system to enforce speed limits on highways
8 on which the speed limit has been reduced under this Act; and generally relating to
9 the establishment of speed limits on highways in Anne Arundel County.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Transportation
12 Section 21–801.1(a) through (d) and 21–803(a)(1)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Transportation
17 Section 21–803(a)(4)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

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.



Article – Transportation

1

2 21–801.1.

3 (a) Unless there is a special danger that requires a lower speed to comply with §
4 21–801 of this subtitle, the limits specified in this section or otherwise established under
5 this subtitle are maximum lawful speeds. A person may not drive a vehicle on a highway
6 at a speed that exceeds these limits.

7 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the maximum speed limits are:

8 (1) 15 miles per hour in alleys in Baltimore County;

9 (2) 30 miles per hour on:

10 (i) All highways in a business district; and

11 (ii) Undivided highways in a residential district;

12 (3) 35 miles per hour on divided highways in a residential district;

13 (4) 50 miles per hour on undivided highways in other locations; and

14 (5) 55 miles per hour on divided highways in other locations.

15 (c) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, a posted maximum speed
16 limit lawfully in effect on December 31, 1974, is a maximum lawful speed even if it differs
17 from a limit specified in subsection (b) of this section.

18 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, a maximum speed limit
19 specified in subsection (b) of this section or in effect under subsection (c) of this section may
20 be altered as provided in this subtitle.

21 21–803.

22 (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) through (5) of this subsection, if,
23 on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, a local authority determines that
24 any maximum speed limit specified in this subtitle is greater or less than reasonable or
25 safe under existing conditions on any part of a highway in its jurisdiction, it may establish
26 a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that part of the highway, which may:

27 (i) Decrease the limit at an intersection;

28 (ii) Increase the limit in an urban district to not more than 50 miles
29 per hour;

1 (iii) Decrease the limit in an urban district; or

2 (iv) Decrease the limit outside an urban district to not less than 25
3 miles per hour.

4 (4) (i) This paragraph applies only to:

5 1. ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY AND Montgomery County;
6 and

7 2. Municipalities located in ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY AND
8 Montgomery County.

9 (ii) A local authority may decrease the maximum speed limit to not
10 less than 15 miles per hour on a highway only after performing an engineering and traffic
11 investigation.

12 (iii) A local authority may not implement a new speed monitoring
13 system to enforce speed limits on any portion of a highway for which the speed limit has
14 been decreased under this paragraph.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2024.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.