

HOUSE BILL 344

R2, R1

4lr0915
CF SB 345

By: **Delegates Palakovich Carr, Charkoudian, Embry, Foley, Fraser-Hidalgo, Guyton, Kaufman, Lehman, R. Lewis, Lopez, Love, Martinez, Mireku-North, Pasteur, Pena-Melnyk, Qi, Ruth, Shetty, Solomon, Stewart, Taveras, Terrasa, Vogel, Williams, Wims, Wolek, and Wu**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Transportation – Vision Zero Advisory Commission – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Vision Zero Advisory Commission; and generally
4 relating to the Vision Zero Advisory Commission.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

6 Article – Transportation

7 Section 8–1001, 8–1002, and 8–1003

8 Annotated Code of Maryland

9 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

11 Article – Transportation

12 Section 8–1007

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

15 BY adding to

16 Article – Transportation

17 Section 8–1008

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:

22 **Article – Transportation**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 8–1001.

2 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

3 (b) “Coordinator” means the individual designated by the Department to oversee
4 the implementation of Vision Zero throughout the State.

5 (c) “Vision Zero” means a program for planning and developing a State roadway
6 system that has zero vehicle–related deaths or serious injuries.

7 8–1002.

8 There is a program within the Department known as Vision Zero.

9 8–1003.

10 (a) The purpose of Vision Zero is to develop strategies to make roadways safer for
11 drivers and passengers of motor vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

12 (b) The goal of Vision Zero is to have zero vehicle–related deaths or serious
13 injuries on roadways by the year 2030.

14 8–1007.

15 (a) On or before December 31 each year, the Department shall submit a report
16 [on the status of Vision Zero] to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State
17 Government Article, the General Assembly **THAT INCLUDES:**

18 **(1) THE STATUS OF VISION ZERO; AND**

19 **(2) THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VISION ZERO**
20 **ADVISORY COMMISSION ESTABLISHED UNDER § 8–1008 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

21 (b) The Department shall make the report required under subsection (a) of this
22 section available on its website.

23 **8–1008.**

24 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “COMMISSION” MEANS THE VISION ZERO ADVISORY**
25 **COMMISSION.**

26 **(B) THERE IS A VISION ZERO ADVISORY COMMISSION.**

27 **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO ADVISE THE DEPARTMENT ON**
28 **BEST PRACTICES INTENDED TO ELIMINATE DEATHS AND SERIOUS INJURIES ON**

1 ROADWAYS IN ALL MODES OF GROUND TRANSPORTATION USING DATA-DRIVEN
2 PREVENTION STRATEGIES, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON A SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH.

3 (D) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

4 (1) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE
5 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

6 (2) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE
7 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

8 (3) THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, OR THE SECRETARY'S
9 DESIGNEE;

10 (4) THE SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE OR THE SECRETARY'S
11 DESIGNEE;

12 (5) THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

13 (6) THE SECRETARY OF PLANNING OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

14 (7) THE SECRETARY OF AGING OR THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

15 (8) THE SECRETARY OF DISABILITIES OR THE SECRETARY'S
16 DESIGNEE;

17 (9) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS OR THE STATE
18 SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;

19 (10) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY OF
20 TRANSPORTATION:

21 (I) THE COORDINATOR;

22 (II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND HIGHWAY
23 SAFETY OFFICE;

24 (III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE HIGHWAY
25 ADMINISTRATION;

26 (IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND TRANSIT
27 ADMINISTRATION;

1 (V) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE
2 ADMINISTRATION; AND

3 (VI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND
4 TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY; AND

5 (11) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

6 (I) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR
7 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEMS;

8 (II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF
9 MEDICAL EXAMINER;

10 (III) ONE CITIZEN MEMBER OF THE MARYLAND PEDESTRIAN
11 AND BICYCLIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE;

12 (IV) ONE MEMBER OF THE STATE COORDINATING COMMITTEE
13 FOR HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION;

14 (V) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION
15 OF COUNTIES;

16 (VI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND MUNICIPAL
17 LEAGUE;

18 (VII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND SHERIFFS'
19 ASSOCIATION;

20 (VIII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND CHIEFS OF
21 POLICE ASSOCIATION;

22 (IX) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COUNTY ENGINEERS
23 ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND;

24 (X) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A MARYLAND INSTITUTION OF
25 HIGHER EDUCATION WITH EXPERTISE IN TRANSPORTATION SAFETY OR SYSTEMS;

26 (XI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A MARYLAND INSTITUTION OF
27 HIGHER EDUCATION WITH EXPERTISE IN EVALUATING HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS
28 OR CAMPAIGNS;

1 (XII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL
2 ASSOCIATION;

3 (XIII) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT
4 ADVOCATE FOR BICYCLISTS OR PEDESTRIANS;

5 (XIV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT
6 ADVOCATES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES;

7 (XV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF AN ORGANIZATION THAT
8 REPRESENTS THE TRUCKING INDUSTRY; AND

9 (XVI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING
10 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS WHO ARE CITIZENS OF MARYLAND:

11 1. NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION
12 PLANNING BOARD;

13 2. BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD;

14 3. CUMBERLAND AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING
15 ORGANIZATION;

16 4. HAGERSTOWN/EASTERN PANHANDLE
17 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION;

18 5. WILMINGTON AREA PLANNING COUNCIL;

19 6. SALISBURY/WICOMICO METROPOLITAN PLANNING
20 ORGANIZATION; AND

21 7. CALVERT-ST. MARY'S METROPOLITAN PLANNING
22 ORGANIZATION.

23 (E) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION
24 SHALL REFLECT THE RACIAL, ETHNIC, GEOGRAPHIC, GENDER, AND ECONOMIC
25 DIVERSITY OF THE STATE.

26 (F) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION.

27 (G) (1) A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF AN APPOINTED MEMBER SHALL BE
28 PROMPTLY FILLED BY THE PERSON WHO APPOINTED THE VACATING MEMBER.

1 **(2) THE GOVERNOR MAY REMOVE AN APPOINTED MEMBER FOR**
2 **INCOMPETENCE, MISCONDUCT, OR FAILURE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF THE**
3 **POSITION.**

4 **(H) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY TO COMMISSION MEMBERS**
5 **APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(11) OF THIS SECTION.**

6 **(2) EXCEPT FOR THE INITIAL TERMS OF THE COMMISSION MEMBERS,**
7 **THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.**

8 **(3) THE TERMS OF MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY THE**
9 **TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ON OCTOBER 1, 2024.**

10 **(4) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**
11 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

12 **(5) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES**
13 **ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND**
14 **QUALIFIES.**

15 **(6) A MEMBER MAY BE REAPPOINTED, BUT AFTER SERVING TWO**
16 **CONSECUTIVE TERMS, A MEMBER MAY NOT BE REAPPOINTED UNTIL AT LEAST 1**
17 **YEAR AFTER THE END OF THE MEMBER'S SECOND TERM.**

18 **(I) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION.**

19 **(J) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:**

20 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
21 **COMMISSION; BUT**

22 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
23 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

24 **(K) THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

25 **(1) ADVISE THE GOVERNOR AND STATE AGENCIES ON:**

26 **(I) THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VISION ZERO;**

27 **(II) POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND SERVICES AFFECTING TRAFFIC**
28 **SAFETY FOR PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, AND DRIVERS AND PASSENGERS OF MOTOR**
29 **VEHICLES; AND**

1 **(III) PRIORITIES AND NEEDS FOR ROADWAY SAFETY;**

2 **(2) IDENTIFY STATE AND LOCAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS**
3 **THAT HINDER THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF VISION ZERO;**

4 **(3) REVIEW SAFETY DEFICIENCIES AT CRASH SITES WHERE THERE**
5 **HAVE BEEN THREE OR MORE FATALITIES WITHIN 12 MONTHS, INCLUDING**
6 **DEFICIENCIES IDENTIFIED BY INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEWS CONDUCTED UNDER §**
7 **8-204.2 OF THIS TITLE; AND**

8 **(4) PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON ANY OTHER ISSUE DIRECTLY RELATED TO**
9 **ROADWAY SAFETY.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
11 members of the Vision Zero Advisory Commission appointed by the Governor under §
12 8-1008(c)(11) of the Transportation Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall expire
13 as follows:

14 (1) eight members in 2026;

15 (2) eight members in 2027; and

16 (3) seven members in 2028.

17 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2024.