

HOUSE BILL 948

R4, R5
SB 76/22 – JPR

3lr1975
CF SB 374

By: **Charles County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2023

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 11, 2023

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 2022 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 2022 Supplement)

18 BY adding to
19 Article – Transportation
20 Section 21–104.7 ~~and 21–104.8~~
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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.



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

3 **Article – Transportation**

4 11–130.1.

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

7 13–402.

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 (3) A farm tractor or any farm equipment;

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

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

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

26 (7) A vehicle owned by a new resident of this State during the first 60 days
27 of residency provided the vehicle displays valid registration issued by the jurisdiction of the
28 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 § 21–104.2,
 12 § 21–104.3, § 21–104.4, [or] § 21–104.6, **OR § 21–104.7** of this article;

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

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

18 (15) A personal delivery device that is operated on a roadway, sidewalk,
 19 shoulder, or crosswalk in accordance with § 21–104.5 of this article; ~~OR~~

20 ~~(16) A LOW SPEED VEHICLE THAT IS OPERATED ON A HIGHWAY IN~~
 21 ~~ACCORDANCE WITH § 21–104.8 OF THIS ARTICLE.~~

22 **21–104.7.**

23 **A PERSON WHO OPERATES A GOLF CART ON A HIGHWAY ON COBB ISLAND,**
 24 **CHARLES COUNTY, WITHOUT REGISTRATION AS AUTHORIZED UNDER §**
 25 **13–402(C)(12) OF THIS ARTICLE:**

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

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

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

30 **(III) IF THE GOLF CART IS EQUIPPED WITH LIGHTING DEVICES**
 31 **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 ~~21-104.8.~~

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)(16) 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, 2023.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.