

# SENATE BILL 566

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SB 422/22 – EHE

4lr3097

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By: **Senator Watson**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Transporting Students and Jobs That Require Driving –**  
3 **Authorization and Requirements**  
4 **(Drivers Education for Good Jobs Act of 2024)**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing a county board of education to authorize a certain employee  
6 to transport a public school student in a vehicle if the driver meets certain  
7 requirements; requiring, on or before a certain date, the Career and Technical  
8 Education Committee to establish a certain pathway for students to prepare for a  
9 career that requires driving skills and a driver’s license and establish an annual goal  
10 for the number of students who obtain certain licenses before they graduate high  
11 school; and generally relating to education for careers in driving.

12 BY adding to  
13 Article – Education  
14 Section 6–129 and 21–211  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Education**

20 **6–129.**

21 **A COUNTY BOARD MAY AUTHORIZE AN EMPLOYEE OF THE COUNTY BOARD OR**  
22 **AN EMPLOYEE OF A PERSON THAT CONTRACTS WITH THE COUNTY BOARD TO**  
23 **TRANSPORT A PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT IN A VEHICLE IF THE DRIVER IS:**

24 **(1) AT LEAST 19 YEARS AND 6 MONTHS OLD; AND**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(2) HAS AT LEAST 3 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE DRIVING A VEHICLE.**

2 **21-211.**

3           **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2024, THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL**  
4 **EDUCATION COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER § 21-209 OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL**  
5 **ESTABLISH:**

6           **(1) A STATEWIDE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PATHWAY**  
7 **FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO PREPARE FOR A CAREER THAT REQUIRES DRIVING**  
8 **SKILLS AND A DRIVER'S LICENSE, INCLUDING DRIVERS OF BUSES, TRUCKS,**  
9 **PASSENGER CARS, AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT, THAT LEADS TO THE STUDENT**  
10 **ACHIEVING THE DRIVER'S LICENSE NEEDED FOR THE CAREER AND INCLUDES**  
11 **ASSISTANCE WITH:**

12                   **(I) OBTAINING A STANDARD DRIVER'S LICENSE WHEN THE**  
13 **INDIVIDUAL IS 16 YEARS OLD;**

14                   **(II) ENROLLING IN AND COMPLETING COURSES REQUIRED TO**  
15 **OBTAIN A COMMERCIAL LICENSE OR SPECIALTY LICENSE ASSOCIATED WITH A**  
16 **CAREER IN DRIVING BEFORE THE END OF THE STUDENT'S SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH**  
17 **SCHOOL;**

18                   **(III) COMPLETING 3 WEEKS OF ON-THE-ROAD TRAINING**  
19 **BEFORE JULY 1 DURING OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE STUDENT'S SENIOR YEAR OF**  
20 **HIGH SCHOOL; AND**

21                   **(IV) OBTAINING A COMMERCIAL OR SPECIALTY DRIVER'S**  
22 **LICENSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE STUDENT REACHES THE AGE OF 18**  
23 **YEARS; AND**

24           **(2) AN ANNUAL GOAL FOR THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO OBTAIN**  
25 **THE APPROPRIATE LICENSE FOR A CAREER AS A DRIVER BEFORE THEY GRADUATE**  
26 **HIGH SCHOOL.**

27           **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July**  
28 **1, 2024.**