

# SENATE BILL 604

R4, R5

1lr1738  
CF HB 575

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By: **Senators Hershey and Gallion**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2021

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County – Motor Vehicle Registration – Exception for Golf Carts**

3 FOR the purpose of creating an exception from motor vehicle registration requirements  
4 under certain circumstances for golf carts in Cecil County; providing that a person  
5 who operates a golf cart in Cecil County may operate the golf cart only on certain  
6 highways at certain times and only if the golf cart is equipped with certain lighting  
7 devices; requiring a person who operates a golf cart on a highway in Cecil County to  
8 keep as far to the right of the roadway as feasible and possess a valid driver's license;  
9 authorizing Cecil County to designate certain highways on which a person may  
10 operate a golf cart; authorizing the governing body of a municipality in Cecil County  
11 to designate the highways on which a person may operate a golf cart within the  
12 municipality's limits; and generally relating to an exception to motor vehicle  
13 registration requirements for golf carts in Cecil County.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
15 Article – Transportation  
16 Section 13–402(a)(1)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2020 Replacement Volume)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
20 Article – Transportation  
21 Section 13–402(c)  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2020 Replacement Volume)

24 BY adding to  
25 Article – Transportation  
26 Section 21–104.5  
27 Annotated Code of Maryland  
28 (2020 Replacement Volume)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

**Article – Transportation**

13–402.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) A farm tractor or any farm equipment;

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

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

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

(7) A vehicle owned by a new resident of this State during the first 60 days of residency provided the vehicle displays valid registration issued by the jurisdiction of the resident's former domicile;

(8) New vehicles being operated as part of a shuttle, as defined in § 13–626 of this title, while following a registered vehicle displaying a shuttle permit issued by the Administration;

(9) A vehicle operated in connection with maritime commerce exclusively within any terminal owned or leased by the Maryland Port Administration;

(10) A snowmobile that is operated on highways and roadways as prescribed by § 25–102(a)(14) of this article;

(11) A golf cart that is operated on a highway on Smith Island, provided that the golf cart is equipped with lighting devices as required by the Administration if it is operated on a highway between dusk and dawn;

(12) A golf cart that is operated on a highway in accordance with §§ 21–104.2 through [21–104.4] **21–104.5** of this article;

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

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

**21–104.5.**

**(A) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A PERSON WHO OPERATES A GOLF CART ON A HIGHWAY IN CECIL COUNTY WITHOUT REGISTRATION AS AUTHORIZED UNDER § 13–402(C)(12) OF THIS ARTICLE:**

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

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

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

**(III) IF THE GOLF CART IS EQUIPPED WITH LIGHTING DEVICES AS REQUIRED BY THE ADMINISTRATION;**

**(2) SHALL KEEP THE GOLF CART AS FAR TO THE RIGHT OF THE ROADWAY AS FEASIBLE; AND**

**(3) SHALL POSSESS A VALID DRIVER’S LICENSE.**

**(B) (1) EXCEPT FOR COUNTY HIGHWAYS LOCATED WITHIN A MUNICIPALITY, CECIL COUNTY MAY DESIGNATE COUNTY HIGHWAYS WITHIN THE COUNTY ON WHICH A PERSON MAY OPERATE A GOLF CART.**

**(2) THE GOVERNING BODY OF A MUNICIPALITY IN CECIL COUNTY MAY DESIGNATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL HIGHWAYS WITHIN ITS MUNICIPAL LIMITS ON WHICH A PERSON MAY OPERATE A GOLF CART.**

1       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2   October 1, 2021.