

SENATE BILL 345

R2, R1

4lr0916
CF HB 344

By: **Senator Waldstreicher**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2024

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments

Read second time: February 27, 2024

CHAPTER _____

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:

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

8–1001.

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

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

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

8–1002.

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

8–1003.

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

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

8–1007.

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

(1) THE STATUS OF VISION ZERO; AND

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

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

8–1008.

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

(B) THERE IS A VISION ZERO ADVISORY COMMISSION.

1 **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO ADVISE THE DEPARTMENT ON**
2 **BEST PRACTICES INTENDED TO ELIMINATE DEATHS AND SERIOUS INJURIES ON**
3 **ROADWAYS IN ALL MODES OF GROUND TRANSPORTATION USING DATA-DRIVEN**
4 **PREVENTION STRATEGIES, WITH AN EMPHASIS ON A SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH.**

5 **(D) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:**

6 **(1) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE**
7 **PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;**

8 **(2) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE**
9 **SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;**

10 **(3) THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, OR THE SECRETARY'S**
11 **DESIGNEE;**

12 **(4) THE SECRETARY OF STATE POLICE OR THE SECRETARY'S**
13 **DESIGNEE;**

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

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

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

17 **(8) THE SECRETARY OF DISABILITIES OR THE SECRETARY'S**
18 **DESIGNEE;**

19 **(9) THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS OR THE STATE**
20 **SUPERINTENDENT'S DESIGNEE;**

21 **(10) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY OF**
22 **TRANSPORTATION:**

23 **(I) THE COORDINATOR;**

24 **(II) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND HIGHWAY**
25 **SAFETY OFFICE;**

26 **(III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE HIGHWAY**
27 **ADMINISTRATION;**

28 **(IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND TRANSIT**

1 **ADMINISTRATION;**

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

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

6 **(11) THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS, APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(XII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION;

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

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

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

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

1. NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD;

2. BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD;

3. CUMBERLAND AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION;

4. HAGERSTOWN/EASTERN PANHANDLE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION;

5. WILMINGTON AREA PLANNING COUNCIL;

6. SALISBURY/WICOMICO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION; AND

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

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

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

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

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

(2) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION SERVES AT THE PLEASURE OF THE PERSON WHO APPOINTED THE MEMBER TO THE COMMISSION.

(3) AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMISSION THAT OCCURS ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2024, THE COMMISSION SHALL VOTE TO ADOPT A CODE OF CONDUCT PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTABLE CONDUCT OF COMMISSION MEMBERS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(J) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION:

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

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

(K) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

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

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

3 **(II) POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND SERVICES AFFECTING TRAFFIC**
4 **SAFETY FOR PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, AND DRIVERS AND PASSENGERS OF MOTOR**
5 **VEHICLES; AND**

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

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

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

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

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
16 members of the Vision Zero Advisory Commission appointed by the Governor under §
17 8–1008(d)(11) of the Transportation Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall expire
18 as follows:

19 (1) eight members in 2026;

20 (2) eight members in 2027; and

21 (3) seven members in 2028.

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