

HOUSE BILL 612

R1, L2

4lr0801

By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 5, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County – Highways – Maximum Speed Limits**

3 **MC 10–24**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing the requirement that a local authority in Montgomery County
5 perform an engineering and traffic investigation before decreasing the maximum
6 speed limit on a highway; authorizing a local authority in Montgomery County to
7 implement new speed monitoring systems on a portion of highway for which the
8 speed limit has been decreased only after a certain period of time after the decrease
9 in the speed limit is implemented; and generally relating to maximum speed limits
10 in Montgomery County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Transportation
13 Section 21–803(a)(1), (c), and (d)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – Transportation
18 Section 21–803(a)(4)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2023 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.



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

Article – Transportation

21–803.

(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) through (5) of this subsection, if, on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, a local authority determines that any maximum speed limit specified in this subtitle is greater or less than reasonable or safe under existing conditions on any part of a highway in its jurisdiction, it may establish a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that part of the highway, which may:

(i) Decrease the limit at an intersection;

(ii) Increase the limit in an urban district to not more than 50 miles per hour;

(iii) Decrease the limit in an urban district; or

(iv) Decrease the limit outside an urban district to not less than 25 miles per hour.

(4) (i) This paragraph applies only to:

1. Montgomery County; and

2. Municipalities located in Montgomery County.

(ii) A local authority may decrease the maximum speed limit to not less than 15 miles per hour on a highway [only after performing an engineering and traffic investigation].

(iii) A local authority may ~~not~~ implement a new speed monitoring system to enforce speed limits on ~~any~~ A portion of a highway for which the speed limit has been decreased under this paragraph **NOT EARLIER THAN 1 YEAR AFTER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECREASE IN THE SPEED LIMIT.**

(c) An altered maximum speed limit established under this section is effective when posted on appropriate signs giving notice of the limit.

(d) Except in Baltimore City, any alteration by a local authority of a maximum speed limit on a part or extension of a State highway is not effective until it is approved by the State Highway Administration.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2024.