

Chapter 754

(House Bill 997)

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws – Bicycles, Play Vehicles, and Unicycles – Operation on Sidewalks and in Crosswalks

FOR the purpose of providing that, subject to certain provisions of law, a person has certain rights and is subject to certain restrictions applicable to pedestrians while the person is lawfully operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle on a sidewalk or sidewalk area or in or through a crosswalk; providing that, at an intersection, a person operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle is subject to certain traffic control signals; providing that a certain provision of law does not apply to a person operating a bicycle, play vehicle, or unicycle; altering a certain definition; and generally relating to the operation of bicycles, play vehicles, and unicycles.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Transportation

Section 21–101(a), (i), ~~(m)~~, (o), and (w) and 21–506

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Transportation

Section 21–101(m) and 21–1202

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

21–101.

(a) In this title and Title 25 of this article the following words have the meanings indicated.

(i) “Crosswalk” means that part of a roadway that is:

(1) Within the prolongation or connection of the lateral lines of sidewalks at any place where 2 or more roadways of any type meet or join, measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway;

(2) Within the prolongation or connection of the lateral lines of a bicycle way where a bicycle way and a roadway of any type meet or join, measured from the curbs or, in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the roadway; or

(3) Distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings.

(m) “Play vehicle” means a vehicle that:

(1) Has two or ~~three~~ **MORE** wheels;

(2) Is propelled only by human power; ~~and~~

(3) Is not a bicycle, as defined in Title 11 of this article; **AND**

(4) IS NOT A WHEELCHAIR.

(o) “Public bicycle area” means any highway, bicycle path, or other facility or area maintained by this State, a political subdivision of this State, or any of their agencies for the use of bicycles.

(w) “Sidewalk” means that part of a highway:

(1) That is intended for use by pedestrians; and

(2) That is between:

(i) The lateral curb lines or, in the absence of curbs, the lateral boundary lines of a roadway; and

(ii) The adjacent property lines.

21-506.

(a) Where a sidewalk is provided, a pedestrian may not walk along and on an adjacent roadway.

(b) Where a sidewalk is not provided, a pedestrian who walks along and on a highway may walk only on the left shoulder, if practicable, or on the left side of the roadway, as near as practicable to the edge of the roadway, facing any traffic that might approach from the opposite direction.

21-1202.

(A) Every person operating a bicycle or a motor scooter in a public bicycle area has all the rights granted to and is subject to all the duties required of the driver of a vehicle by this title, including the duties set forth in § 21-504 of this title, except:

- (1) As otherwise provided in this subtitle; and
- (2) For those provisions of this title that by their very nature cannot apply.

(B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PERSON HAS THE RIGHTS AND IS SUBJECT TO THE RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO PEDESTRIANS UNDER THIS TITLE WHILE THE PERSON IS LAWFULLY OPERATING A BICYCLE, PLAY VEHICLE, OR UNICYCLE:

(I) ON A SIDEWALK OR SIDEWALK AREA; OR

(II) IN OR THROUGH A CROSSWALK.

(2) AT AN INTERSECTION, A PERSON OPERATING A BICYCLE, PLAY VEHICLE, OR UNICYCLE IS SUBJECT TO ALL TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS, AS PROVIDED IN §§ 21-202 AND 21-203 OF THIS TITLE.

(3) SECTION 21-506 OF THIS TITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSON OPERATING A BICYCLE, PLAY VEHICLE, OR UNICYCLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.

Approved by the Governor, May 25, 2017.