

SENATE BILL 345

R2, R1

4lr0916
CF 4lr0915

By: **Senator Waldstreicher**

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2024

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

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:

22 **Article – Transportation**

23 8–1001.

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(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.

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

(D) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(I) THE COORDINATOR;

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

(III) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION;

(IV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(V) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION
OF COUNTIES;

(VI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND MUNICIPAL
LEAGUE;

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

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

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

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

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

(XII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL
ASSOCIATION;

(XIII) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT

1 ADVOCATE FOR BICYCLISTS OR PEDESTRIANS;

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

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

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

8 1. NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORTATION
9 PLANNING BOARD;

10 2. BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD;

11 3. CUMBERLAND AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING
12 ORGANIZATION;

13 4. HAGERSTOWN/EASTERN PANHANDLE
14 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION;

15 5. WILMINGTON AREA PLANNING COUNCIL;

16 6. SALISBURY/WICOMICO METROPOLITAN PLANNING
17 ORGANIZATION; AND

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

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

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

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

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

(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) ADVISE THE GOVERNOR AND STATE AGENCIES ON:

(I) THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VISION ZERO;

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

(III) PRIORITIES AND NEEDS FOR ROADWAY SAFETY;

(2) IDENTIFY STATE AND LOCAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

1 THAT HINDER THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF VISION ZERO;

2 (3) REVIEW SAFETY DEFICIENCIES AT CRASH SITES WHERE THERE
3 HAVE BEEN THREE OR MORE FATALITIES WITHIN 12 MONTHS, INCLUDING
4 DEFICIENCIES IDENTIFIED BY INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEWS CONDUCTED UNDER §
5 8–204.2 OF THIS TITLE; AND

6 (4) PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON ANY OTHER ISSUE DIRECTLY RELATED TO
7 ROADWAY SAFETY.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the terms of the initial
9 members of the Vision Zero Advisory Commission appointed by the Governor under §
10 8–1008(d)(11) of the Transportation Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall expire
11 as follows:

12 (1) eight members in 2026;

13 (2) eight members in 2027; and

14 (3) seven members in 2028.

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