

SENATE BILL 565

R3

5lr1238

By: **Senators Charles, Ellis, Rosapepe, Ready, Carozza, and M. Washington**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles – Accidents – Required Testing for Impaired Driving**
3 **(Mateo’s Law)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring any person involved in a motor vehicle accident that results
5 in the death of, or a life threatening injury to, another person to submit to breath
6 and blood testing for impaired driving; and generally relating to impaired driving.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Transportation
9 Section 16–205.1(c)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Transportation**

15 16–205.1.

16 (c) (1) If a person is involved in a motor vehicle accident that results in the
17 death of, or a life threatening injury to, another person [and the person is detained by a
18 police officer who has reasonable grounds to believe that the person has been driving or
19 attempting to drive while under the influence of alcohol, while impaired by alcohol, while
20 so far impaired by any drug, any combination of drugs, or a combination of one or more
21 drugs and alcohol that the person could not drive a vehicle safely, while impaired by a
22 controlled dangerous substance, or in violation of § 16–813 of this title], the person shall be
23 required to submit, as directed by [the] A POLICE officer, to a test of:

24 (i) The person’s breath to determine alcohol concentration; AND

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) One specimen of the person's blood, to determine alcohol
2 concentration or to determine the drug or controlled dangerous substance content of the
3 person's blood[; or

4 (iii) Both the person's breath under item (i) of this paragraph and one
5 specimen of the person's blood under item (ii) of this paragraph].

6 (2) If a police officer directs that a person be tested, then the provisions of
7 § 10–304 of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article shall apply.

8 (3) Any medical personnel who perform any test required by this section
9 are not liable for any civil damages as the result of any act or omission related to such test,
10 not amounting to gross negligence.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2025.