

HOUSE BILL 1199

R5

7lr3489
CF SB 865

By: **Delegates Bromwell, Cluster, Impallaria, McDonough, Miele, and Szeliga**
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2017
Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – School Zone Crosswalks – Traffic Control Signals**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the State Highway Administration or a local authority to
4 place traffic control signals at certain locations in certain school zones; requiring that
5 a traffic control signal placed on a highway under this Act may operate only during
6 certain hours; and generally relating to traffic control signals at school zone
7 crosswalks.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Transportation
10 Section 21–803.1
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Transportation**

16 21–803.1.

17 (a) (1) Subject to subsection (f) of this section, within a half–mile radius of any
18 school, the State Highway Administration or a local authority:

19 (i) May establish a school zone and maximum speed limits
20 applicable in the school zone; and

21 (ii) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, may provide that fines
22 are to be doubled for speeding violations within the school zone.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2) (i) The State Highway Administration may establish a school zone under paragraph (1) of this subsection on any State highway or, at the request of a local authority, on any highway under the jurisdiction of the local authority.

(ii) A local authority may establish a school zone under paragraph (1) of this subsection on any highway under its jurisdiction.

(iii) In Prince George's County, a municipal corporation may establish a school zone under paragraph (1) of this subsection on any highway that:

1. Is not under State jurisdiction; and

2. Is located within the corporate limits of the municipal corporation.

(b) (1) On each highway where a school zone is established under this section, in accordance with specifications of the State Highway Administration, the State Highway Administration or local authority:

(i) Shall place signs designating the school zone; and

(ii) May place other traffic control devices, including timed flashing warning lights.

(2) The signs designating a school zone shall indicate the maximum speed limit applicable in the school zone.

(3) The local authority shall pay the State Highway Administration the cost of placing and maintaining signs and other traffic control devices on highways under the jurisdiction of the local authority when the State Highway Administration establishes the school zone at the local authority's request.

(4) In Prince George's County, a municipal corporation shall be responsible for the cost of placing and maintaining signs and other traffic control devices for a school zone that the municipal corporation establishes on a highway within its corporate limits.

(c) A maximum speed limit in a school zone established under this section is in effect when posted on appropriate signs giving notice of the limit.

(d) The fines for speeding in a school zone are double the amount that would otherwise apply if, in accordance with specifications adopted by the State Highway Administration:

(1) (i) A sign designating a school zone under this section is equipped with timed flashing warning lights and indicates that fines for speeding are doubled when the lights are activated; and

1 (ii) The lights are activated at the time the violation occurs; or

2 (2) A sign designating a school zone under this section indicates that fines
3 for speeding are doubled during school hours.

4 (e) A person may not drive a motor vehicle at a speed exceeding the posted speed
5 limit within a school zone established in accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

6 (f) In any school zone where a school crossing guard is posted to assist students
7 in crossing a highway, the maximum speed limit may not exceed 35 miles per hour in the
8 school zone during the hours posted on signs designating the school zone.

9 **(G) (1) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION OR A LOCAL AUTHORITY**
10 **MAY PLACE A TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL AT ANY MARKED CROSSWALK ON A**
11 **HIGHWAY IN A SCHOOL ZONE FOR WHICH THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT IS AT LEAST**
12 **35 MILES PER HOUR.**

13 **(2) A TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNAL PLACED IN A SCHOOL ZONE UNDER**
14 **THIS SUBSECTION MAY OPERATE ONLY DURING THE HOURS POSTED ON SIGNS**
15 **DESIGNATING THE SCHOOL ZONE.**

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2017.