



MARYLAND'S NEW TRAFFIC SAFETY LAWS

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2022

Myra Wieman
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ZERO DEATHS
MARYLAND

HB1 - CANNABIS USE

Marylanders vote to adopt or reject the legalization of cannabis (November, 2022)



*"Do you favor the legalization of the use of cannabis by an individual who is **at least 21 years of age** on or after **July 1, 2023**, in the State of Maryland?"*

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Constitutional Amendment

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2022RS/bills/hb/hb0001E.pdf>

SB833 – CANNABIS REFORM (IF PASSED)



- Legally possess up to 1.5 ounces - grow two marijuana plants out of public view
- Sale of marijuana remains a crime
- Allow those who were arrested for marijuana possession to have records expunged (if it was the only charge in the case)
- Those serving time for simple possession could get their sentences reconsidered

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Maryland will become the 20th state to legalize adult use of the substance. In the region, D.C. legalized use in 2014 and Virginia did so in 2021.

Under the legislation the state will conduct a study of the impact of marijuana on public health and a disparities study looking at the business market and what might be needed to help women- and minority-owned businesses enter the industry.

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2022RS/bills/sb/sb0833T.pdf>

HB105 - APPROACHING STOPPED, STANDING, OR PARKED VEHICLES

MOVE OVER
OR
SLOW DOWN
FOR STOPPED
VEHICLES
WITH FLASHING
LIGHTS

STATE LAW
MOVE OVER OR
SLOW DOWN
FOR STOPPED
VEHICLES WITH
FLASHING LIGHTS

Requires drivers to move over or slow down when approaching a stopped, standing, or parked **vehicle*** displaying hazard warning lights, road flares, or other caution signals.

*Prior law - emergency vehicle using visual signals while stopped

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<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2022RS/bills/hb/hb0105T.pdf>

CONSEQUENCES

Violating the law

\$110 fine and one point

If violation causes a crash

\$150 and three points

If violation causes death or serious injury

\$750 and three points



September 7, 2022

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SB176 REAR-FACING CHILD SAFETY SEATS

Current CPS Law

Every child under 8 years old – appropriate child restraint

Exception 4'9" or taller

8 to 16 years old (not in car seat) secured in seat belt



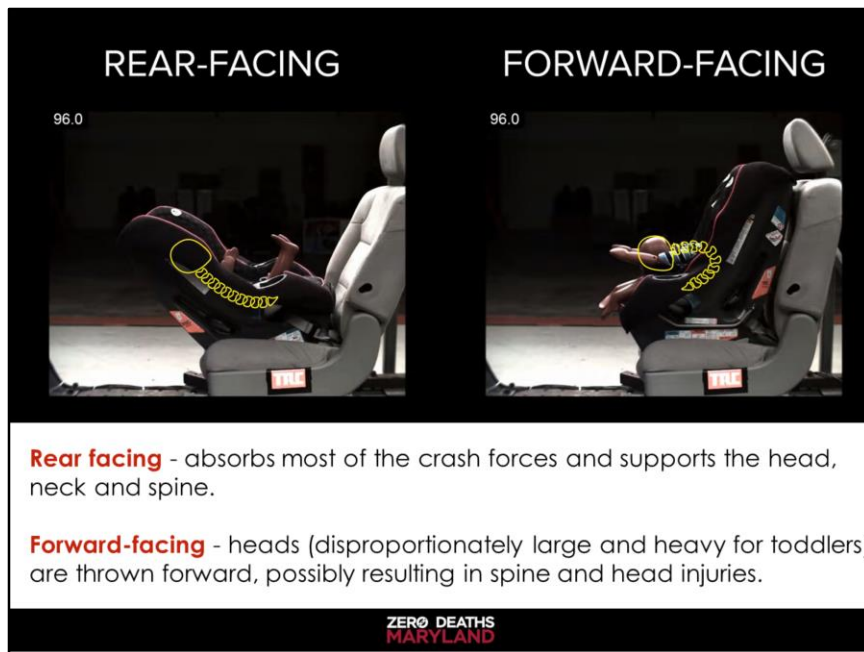
New CPS Law

Effective 10/1/2022

Children **under 2** must ride rear facing until they reach the weight or height limit specified by the manufacturer

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<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2022RS/bills/sb/sb0176T.pdf>



Credit: Ohio State University - <https://buckleup.osu.edu/car-seat-types-2/rear-facing-2/>
Screen shot from video

WHY EXPAND THE LAW?

- Brings MD in-line with 16 states and DC
- Provides better guidance on what has been best practice advice for years
- Not intended for LE to write tickets, rather educate
- Better parameters for officers to begin conversation
- Law is minimum standard – education and outreach is best practice



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** Mention the photo is a recent child passenger safety seat donation of convertible seats to over 30 police agencies in the state of Maryland. Intended to help them transport children safely.

In line with neighboring PA, VA and DC

MARYLAND CODE

Anecdotally, the majority of child safety seat violations are due to:

- Observation of child completely out of a seat
- Child involved in a crash, no seat present

- Children under 8 not secured in a safety seat - primary law
- Penalty - \$83 fine for driver
- If officer sees a child (believed to be under 2) in forward-facing seat - **education and written warning (1st)**

TA § 22-412.2

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TA § 22-412.2 (Child Safety Seats) is a primary offense. That means that a vehicle can be pulled over for violating that section - a child under 8 not secured in a child safety seat. The penalty for that subsection is a \$83 fine. If an officer sees a child he believes to be under 2 years, traveling in a forward facing seat – primary offense – officer can stop the vehicle but can only write a warning on the first violation.

HB254 –PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLIST FATALITIES - INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW

(Vision Zero Implementation Act of 2022)



Requires SHA to conduct an infrastructure review of each pedestrian or bicyclist fatality that occurs on a state highway or at an intersection with a state highway

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<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2022RS/bills/hb/hb0254T.pdf>

REVIEW REQUIREMENTS

1. Identify deficiencies in engineering, traffic control, and traffic operations - identify appropriate corrective actions
2. Complete the review within 6 months after being notified by law enforcement of the fatality
3. Publish the review on its website



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CAMPAIGN COLLATERAL COMING SOON!

Move Over
New CPS Law
Legalization of Cannabis



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QUESTIONS?

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