

Chapter 557

(House Bill 1236)

AN ACT concerning

Queen Anne's County – Municipalities – Speed Limits

FOR the purpose of authorizing municipalities in Queen Anne's County to decrease the maximum speed limit to not less than a certain speed on highways without performing an engineering and traffic investigation; and generally relating to speed limits on highways in municipalities in Queen Anne's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Transportation

Section 21–803(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

21–803.

(a) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (3) through ~~[(5)]~~ **(6)** of this subsection, if, on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, a local authority determines that any maximum speed limit specified in this subtitle is greater or less than reasonable or safe under existing conditions on any part of a highway in its jurisdiction, it may establish a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that part of the highway, which may:

- (i) Decrease the limit at an intersection;
- (ii) Increase the limit in an urban district to not more than 50 miles per hour;
- (iii) Decrease the limit in an urban district; or
- (iv) Decrease the limit outside an urban district to not less than 25 miles per hour.

(2) An engineering and traffic investigation is not required to conform a posted maximum speed limit in effect on December 31, 1974, to a different limit specified in § 21–801.1(b) of this subtitle.

(3) Calvert County may decrease the maximum speed limit to not less than 15 miles per hour on Lore Road and, except for Solomons Island Road, each highway south of Lore Road without performing an engineering and traffic investigation, regardless of whether the highway is inside an urban district.

(4) (i) This paragraph applies only to:

1. Anne Arundel County and Montgomery County; and
2. Municipalities located in Anne Arundel County and Montgomery County.

(ii) A local authority may decrease the maximum speed limit to not less than 15 miles per hour on a highway only after performing an engineering and traffic investigation.

(iii) A local authority may not implement a new speed monitoring system to enforce speed limits on any portion of a highway for which the speed limit has been decreased under this paragraph.

(5) Baltimore City may, without performing an engineering and traffic investigation:

(i) Decrease the maximum speed limit on a highway under its jurisdiction; or

(ii) Increase to a previously established level the maximum speed limit on a highway under its jurisdiction.

(6) A MUNICIPALITY LOCATED IN QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY MAY DECREASE THE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT TO NOT LESS THAN 15 MILES PER HOUR ON A HIGHWAY WITHOUT PERFORMING AN ENGINEERING AND TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION.

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

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2025.