

Chapter 377

(House Bill 885)

AN ACT concerning

Transportation – Vision Zero – Establishment

FOR the purpose of establishing Vision Zero; specifying the purpose and goal of Vision Zero; requiring the Department of Transportation to designate a coordinator to oversee the implementation of Vision Zero; requiring the coordinator, in implementing Vision Zero, to collaborate with certain entities; requiring that the implementation of Vision Zero include certain strategies; requiring that the funding for Vision Zero be as provided by the Governor in the State budget; ~~requiring the Secretary of Transportation to adopt certain regulations~~; requiring the Department to submit a certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; requiring the Department to make a certain report available on its website; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the establishment of Vision Zero.

BY adding to

Article – Transportation

Section 8–1001 through ~~8–1008~~ 8–1007 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 10. Vision Zero”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

SUBTITLE 10. VISION ZERO.

8–1001.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(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 ~~HIGHWAY~~ 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 ~~HIGHWAYS~~ 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 ~~STATE HIGHWAYS~~ ROADWAYS BY THE YEAR 2030.

8-1004.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGNATE A COORDINATOR TO OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VISION ZERO THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

(B) IN IMPLEMENTING VISION ZERO, THE COORDINATOR SHALL COLLABORATE WITH OTHER STATE AGENCIES AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES, INCLUDING LOCAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES.

8-1005.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VISION ZERO SHALL INCLUDE STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING THE GOAL ESTABLISHED UNDER § 8-1003(B) OF THIS SUBTITLE, INCLUDING STRATEGIES FOR:

(1) IDENTIFYING STATE AND LOCAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS THAT HINDER THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF VISION ZERO;

(2) PROPOSING CHANGES TO STATE AND LOCAL LAWS TO ALLOW FOR INNOVATIVE ENGINEERING AND ~~REDUCED SPEED LIMITS~~ TRAFFIC CALMING;

(3) CREATING A VISION ZERO WEBSITE THAT CONTAINS INFORMATION RELATED TO VISION ZERO;

~~(4) DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN THAT ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO PROVIDE DATA AND INPUT ON MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISIONS, NEAR MISSES, AND HIGH RISK ROAD SEGMENTS;~~

~~(5) DEVELOPING A PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN THAT ESTABLISHES A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ON THE BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE OF PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE;~~

~~(6)~~ (4) COLLECTING AND PUBLISHING MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION DATA;

~~(7)~~ (5) CONNECTING WITH OTHER STATES AND COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE IMPLEMENTED A SIMILAR VISION ZERO PROGRAM;

~~(8)~~ (6) REVIEWING EXISTING TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAMS TO DETERMINE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS;

~~(9)~~ (7) WORKING WITH RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS TO DEVELOP BEST PRACTICES;

~~(10)~~ (8) PRIORITIZING RESOURCES FOR INVESTMENT IN THE COMMUNITIES MOST AFFECTED BY MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISIONS;

~~(11)~~ (9) PROACTIVELY ENGAGING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO ADDRESS THEIR TRAFFIC SAFETY CONCERNS; ~~AND~~

~~(12)~~ (10) DEVELOPING AND PUBLISHING A LONG-TERM PLAN FOR THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF VISION ZERO; AND

(11) INVESTING MORE RESOURCES INTO CONSTRUCTION NEEDS FOR HIGH-ACCIDENT INTERSECTIONS AND ROADWAY SECTIONS.

8-1006.

FUNDS FOR VISION ZERO SHALL BE AS PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNOR IN THE STATE BUDGET.

8-1007.

~~THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~§ 1008.~~

(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 § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAKE THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION AVAILABLE ON ITS WEBSITE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2019.