

CHAPTER 340
(House Bill 987)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 91(b) and (c) of Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume), title "Motor Vehicles," subtitle "Administration—Registration—Titling," relating to changing the requirements of visual acuity required for the issuance of an unrestricted license from 20/70 vision in each eye to a requirement of 20/40 vision in the better EACH eye, and eliminating the requirement of binocular vision, and changing the requirements as to a permit which restricts the holder to "daylight driving only" by deleting the requirement that the applicant shall demonstrate not less than 20/100 vision in each eye, and changing the provisions as to who shall be required to have a rear view mirror and adding a provision requiring side view mirrors, and providing, further, that a person who has the vision of only one eye must have had the vision in one eye only for at least 90 days instead of for a period of not less than one year prior to making application for an operator's permit.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 91(b) and (c) of Article 66½ of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume), title "Motor Vehicles," subtitle "Administration—Registration—Titling," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments to read as follows:

91.

(b) For an unrestricted license, applicant shall be required to have a minimum visual acuity of ~~20/70 in each eye,~~ 20/40 in the better eye and EACH EYE, a field of vision at least 140 degrees †, and binocular vision‡.

Failure to meet the above requirements shall cause the license to be withheld until applicant ascertains whether any of these conditions can be corrected by glasses, CONTACT LENSES or treatment.

In the event that they are corrected by glasses OR CONTACT LENSES, a restricted license may be issued, endorsed "holder shall wear eye glasses OR CONTACT LENSES when operating."

In case applicant cannot obtain ~~20/70 vision in each eye~~ 20/40 vision in the better EACH eye, but obtains 20/70 in one eye and not less than 20/140 in the other, ~~or not less than 20/100 in each eye,~~ a license restricting holder to "daylight driving only" may be issued and shall be so endorsed.

(c) In case applicant is totally blind in either eye and vision in seeing eye ~~of~~ is 20/40 or better with or without glasses OR CONTACT LENSES, ~~an unrestricted license may be issued. With vision of not less than 20/70 in seeing eye license shall be restricted to "daylight driving only."~~

~~In event glasses are required to bring vision in the seeing eye to 20/40 or better,~~ THE license shall bear this ~~additional~~ restriction: "Any motor vehicle which the applicant drives shall have a properly placed rear view mirror and an outside, side view mirror on each side of the vehicle." *With vision in seeing eye of 20/70 or better*