

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

Approved April 29, 1997.

**CHAPTER 260**

**(House Bill 748)**

AN ACT concerning

**School Buses – Receiving and Discharging Passengers – Loading Zones Safety Study**

FOR the purpose of ~~prohibiting school vehicle drivers from using loading zones under certain circumstances; prohibiting school vehicle drivers from activating certain flashing signals under certain circumstances~~ establishing a task force to study the safe boarding and discharging of children on school vehicles; providing for the membership of the task force; specifying the scope of the study and requiring a report of the task force's findings and recommendations by a specified date; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administrator to name the chairman of the task force and provide certain administrative support; providing for the effective date of this Act; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the study of safety issues pertaining to the receiving and discharging of passengers on school vehicles ~~on highways in the State.~~

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Transportation  
Section 22-228 (b) and (f)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1992 Replacement Volume and 1996 Supplement)~~

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

**Article – Transportation**

~~22-228.~~

~~(b) Except as provided in [subsection] SUBSECTIONS (e) AND (f) of this section, a person may not operate any alternately flashing warning signal on any school vehicle except when the school vehicle is stopping or stopped on a roadway for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers.~~

~~(f) (1) In this subsection, "loading zone" means an area on or adjacent to a highway, but not on its roadway:~~

~~(i) That has been designated for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers by a school vehicle; and~~