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Committee: _____

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By: **Senator Mautz**

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws – Causing Serious Injury or Death of Vulnerable Individual

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "vulnerable individual" to exclude an individual who is riding a motorcycle for purposes of the prohibition on causing the serious physical injury or death of a vulnerable individual as a result of operating a motor vehicle in violation of certain rules of the road; and generally relating to rules of the road and vulnerable individuals.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 21–901.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2020 Replacement Volume and 2026 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

21–901.3.

(a) In this section, "vulnerable individual" means:

EXPLANATION: **CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**
[Brackets**]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.

(1) A pedestrian, including an individual who is lawfully:

(i) Actively working on a highway or a utility facility along a highway;

(ii) Providing emergency services on a highway; or

(iii) On a sidewalk or footpath;

(2) An individual who is lawfully riding or leading an animal on a highway, shoulder, crosswalk, or sidewalk; or

(3) An individual who is lawfully operating or riding any of the following on a highway, shoulder, crosswalk, or sidewalk:

(i) A bicycle;

(ii) A farm tractor or farm equipment;

(iii) A play vehicle;

(iv) A motor scooter;

(v) **[**A motorcycle;

(vi)**]** An animal–drawn vehicle;

[(vii)**] (VI)** An EPAMD; or

[(viii)**] (VII)** A wheelchair.

(b) An individual may not cause the serious physical injury or death of a vulnerable individual as a result of the individual operating a motor vehicle in violation of any provision of this title.

(c) (1) An individual charged with a violation of subsection (b) of this section:

(i) Must appear in court; and

(ii) May not prepay the fine.

(2) An individual convicted of a violation of subsection (b) of this section is subject to a fine not exceeding $2,000.

(d) In addition to the penalties provided under subsection (c) of this section, the court may order an individual convicted of a violation of subsection (b) of this section to:

(1) Participate in a motor vehicle safety course; and

(2) Perform up to 150 hours of community service.

(e) The Administration shall suspend the driver's license of an individual convicted of a violation of subsection (b) of this section for at least 7 days but not more than 6 months.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2027.