

# HOUSE BILL 557

R7  
HB 1243/19 – ENT

0lr2592  
CF 0lr2718

By: **Delegates Attar, Arian, Bagnall, Boyce, Brooks, Carr, Chang, Charles, Clark, Cullison, Feldmark, Forbes, Fraser-Hidalgo, Gilchrist, Guyton, Haynes, Hettleman, Hill, Korman, Krebs, Krimm, Lehman, Lierman, Lopez, Malone, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Shetty, Smith, Solomon, Stein, and Stewart**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2020

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor and Electric Scooter Sharing Companies – Nonvisual Access**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that motor scooter sharing companies include on each motor  
4 scooter or electric low speed scooter made available to the public an embossed tactile  
5 phone number through which certain individuals may contact the company;  
6 requiring that motor or electric scooter sharing companies provide certain  
7 individuals with certain nonvisual access that is consistent with certain federal  
8 standards; defining certain terms; and generally relating to nonvisual access for  
9 motor and electric scooter sharing companies.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
11 Article – Transportation  
12 Section 11–134.5  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

15 BY adding to  
16 Article – Transportation  
17 Section 18.7–101 and 18.7–102 to be under the new title “Title 18.7. Motor and  
18 Electric Scooter Sharing Companies”  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Transportation**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 11–134.5.

2 (a) “Motor scooter” means a nonpedal vehicle that:

3 (1) Has a seat for the operator;

4 (2) Has two wheels, of which one is 10 inches or more in diameter;

5 (3) Has a step–through chassis;

6 (4) Has a motor:

7 (i) With a rating of 2.7 brake horsepower or less; or

8 (ii) If the motor is an internal combustion engine, with a capacity of  
9 50 cubic centimeters piston displacement or less; and

10 (5) Is equipped with an automatic transmission.

11 (b) “Motor scooter” does not include:

12 (1) An electric low speed scooter; or

13 (2) A vehicle that has been manufactured for off–road use, including a  
14 motorcycle and an all–terrain vehicle.

15 **TITLE 18.7. MOTOR AND ELECTRIC SCOOTER SHARING COMPANIES.**

16 **18.7–101.**

17 (A) IN THIS TITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
18 INDICATED.

19 (B) “MOTOR OR ELECTRIC SCOOTER SHARING COMPANY” MEANS A PERSON  
20 THAT MAKES MOTOR SCOOTERS OR ELECTRIC LOW SPEED SCOOTERS AVAILABLE TO  
21 THE PUBLIC FOR LEASE ON A SHORT–TERM BASIS.

22 (C) “NONVISUAL ACCESS” MEANS THE ABILITY THROUGH KEYBOARD  
23 CONTROL, SYNTHESIZED SPEECH, OR OTHER METHODS NOT REQUIRING SIGHT TO  
24 RECEIVE, USE, AND MANIPULATE INFORMATION AND OPERATE CONTROLS  
25 NECESSARY TO ACCESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

26 **18.7–102.**

27 (A) A MOTOR OR ELECTRIC SCOOTER SHARING COMPANY SHALL INCLUDE  
28 ON EACH MOTOR SCOOTER OR ELECTRIC LOW SPEED SCOOTER MADE AVAILABLE TO

1 THE PUBLIC AN EMBOSSED TACTILE PHONE NUMBER THROUGH WHICH AN  
2 INDIVIDUAL WHO IS BLIND OR HAS A VISUAL IMPAIRMENT MAY CONTACT THE  
3 COMPANY.

4 (B) A MOTOR OR ELECTRIC SCOOTER SHARING COMPANY SHALL PROVIDE  
5 INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES NONVISUAL ACCESS TO ITS WEBSITE AND MOBILE  
6 APPLICATION IN A WAY THAT:

7 (1) PROVIDES FULL AND EQUAL ACCESSIBILITY TO THE INDIVIDUAL  
8 WITH DISABILITIES SO THAT THE INDIVIDUAL IS ABLE TO ACQUIRE THE SAME  
9 INFORMATION, ENGAGE IN THE SAME INTERACTIONS, AND ENJOY THE SAME  
10 SERVICES AS USERS WITHOUT DISABILITIES, WITH SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT  
11 EASE OF USE; AND

12 (2) IS CONSISTENT WITH THE STANDARDS OF § 508 OF THE FEDERAL  
13 REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
15 1, 2020.