

# SENATE BILL 252

R5  
SB 25/22 – JPR

3lr2035  
CF 3lr1218

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By: **Senators Carozza, West, and James**  
Introduced and read first time: January 25, 2023  
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Reckless and Negligent Driving – Death of Another – Must-Appear Violation**  
3 **(Sherry’s and Christian’s Law)**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that a person charged with reckless or negligent driving that  
5 contributes to an accident that results in the death of another person must appear  
6 in court and may not prepay the fine; and generally relating to reckless and negligent  
7 driving.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Transportation  
10 Section 21–901.1  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Transportation**

16 21–901.1.

17 (a) A person is guilty of reckless driving if he drives a motor vehicle:

18 (1) In wanton or willful disregard for the safety of persons or property; or

19 (2) In a manner that indicates a wanton or willful disregard for the safety  
20 of persons or property.

21 (b) A person is guilty of negligent driving if he drives a motor vehicle in a careless  
22 or imprudent manner that endangers any property or the life or person of any individual.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (c)    **A PERSON CHARGED WITH A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION THAT**  
2   **CONTRIBUTES TO AN ACCIDENT THAT RESULTS IN THE DEATH OF ANOTHER:**

3                   **(1)    MUST APPEAR IN COURT; AND**

4                   **(2)    MAY NOT PREPAY THE FINE.**

5           **(D)**    A person convicted of a violation of subsection (a) of this section is subject to a  
6   fine not exceeding \$1,000.

7           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8   October 1, 2023.