

CHAPTER 39

(House Bill 1168)

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws – Equipment on Motorcycles – Auxiliary Lighting

FOR the purpose of authorizing the use of certain auxiliary lighting on a motorcycle; and generally relating to motorcycle lighting.

BY ~~repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~ adding to
Article – Transportation
Section ~~22-224.1~~ 22-221(1)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2006 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

~~22-224.1.~~

~~(a) In this section, “motorcycle” includes Class M (multipurpose) vehicles that are designated by the Administrator.~~

~~(b) The headlamp or headlamps on a motorcycle may be of the single beam or multiple beam type, but in either event shall comply with the following requirements and limitations:~~

~~(1) The headlamp or headlamps on a motorcycle shall be of sufficient intensity to reveal a person or a vehicle at a distance of:~~

~~(i) Not less than 100 feet, when the motorcycle is operated at any speed of less than 25 miles an hour;~~

~~(ii) Not less than 200 feet, when the motorcycle is operated at a speed of 25 to 34 miles an hour; and~~

~~(iii) Not less than 300 feet, when the motorcycle is operated at a speed of 35 miles an hour or more;~~

~~(2) If the motorcycle is equipped with a multiple beam headlamp or headlamps, the upper beam shall meet the minimum requirements set forth above and~~

~~may not exceed the limitations set forth in § 22-222(a)(1) of this subtitle, and the lowermost beam shall meet the requirements applicable to a lowermost distribution of light as set forth in § 22-222(a)(2) of this subtitle; and~~

~~(3) If the motorcycle is equipped with a single beam lamp or lamps, the lamp or lamps shall be so aimed that, when the vehicle is loaded, none of the high intensity portion of light, at a distance of 25 feet ahead, projects higher than the level of the center of the lamp from which it comes.~~

~~(C) THIS SECTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT THE USE OF THE FOLLOWING NON-FLASHING AUXILIARY LIGHTING ON A MOTORCYCLE:~~

~~(1) BLUE DOT ILLUMINATION;~~

~~(2) STANDARD BULB RUNNING LIGHTS; OR~~

~~(3) LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE PODS AND STRIPS ADDED TO PROTECT THE DRIVER.~~

22-221.

(L) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A MOTORCYCLE MAY BE EQUIPPED WITH THE FOLLOWING AUXILIARY LIGHTING:

(I) BLUE DOT ILLUMINATION;

(II) STANDARD BULB RUNNING LIGHTS; OR

(III) LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE PODS AND STRIPS ADDED TO PROTECT THE DRIVER.

(2) (I) LIGHTING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE:

1. NONBLINKING;

2. NONFLASHING;

3. NONOSCILLATING; AND

4. DIRECTED TOWARD THE ENGINE AND THE DRIVE TRAIN OF THE MOTORCYCLE.

(II) LIGHTING UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT:

1. BE ATTACHED TO THE WHEELS OF THE MOTORCYCLE; OR

2. EMIT A RED OR BLUE LIGHT.

(III) BLUE DOT ILLUMINATION:

1. MAY BE LOCATED ONLY ON THE REAR OF A MOTORCYCLE AS PART OF OR ADJACENT TO THE REAR BRAKE LIGHT; AND

2. MAY NOT EXCEED THREE-QUARTERS OF AN INCH IN DIAMETER.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, April 8, 2008.