

HOUSE BILL 253

R7

(PRE-FILED)

6lr0164

CF SB 149

By: Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee (By Request – Departmental – Transportation)

Requested: September 29, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Heavy Weight Port Corridor Permits – Regulations**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the requirements for regulations related to the issuance of a
4 heavy weight port corridor permit; and generally relating to heavy weight port
5 corridor permits.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

7 Article – Transportation

8 Section 24–113.3

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Transportation**

14 24–113.3.

15 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, the Secretary, by regulation,
16 may determine that a vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting manifested
17 international freight as the only load of the vehicle or combination of vehicles in a sealed,
18 seagoing container on a semitrailer is transporting an indivisible load, provided that the
19 vehicle or combination of vehicles is issued a permit under this section and:

20 (1) Is carrying not more than 100,000 pounds gross maximum vehicle
21 weight;

22 (2) Has the minimum number of axles required by the permit;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (3) Does not exceed the maximum axle weight or axle spacing
2 requirements, as established by regulation or specified on the permit;

3 (4) Is traveling only during the hours as established by regulation or
4 specified on the permit;

5 (5) Adheres to a unique maximum speed limit specified on the permit; and

6 (6) Is traveling only on State or county highways that are[:

7 (i) On] ON the specific route established by regulation and specified
8 on the permit between the Seagirt Marine Terminal and a destination authorized by the
9 Secretary, with no deviation from the specific route[; and

10 (ii) Specifically designated by the Secretary as being part of a "heavy
11 weight port corridor"].

12 (b) (1) The Secretary shall adopt regulations, consistent with this section, for
13 the issuance of permits for vehicles described under subsection (a) of this section.

14 (2) The regulations adopted under this subsection:

15 (i) May set permit fees; [and]

16 (ii) Shall establish axle and gross weight requirements, routes, and
17 other necessary criteria; AND

18 **(III) SHALL ESTABLISH THE DESTINATIONS TO WHICH A**
19 **VEHICLE OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES MAY TRAVEL FROM THE SEAGIRT MARINE**
20 **TERMINAL UNDER A PERMIT.**

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
22 1, 2026.