

# FINAL

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2021, Legislative Day No. 18

Bill No. 82-21

Introduced by Ms. Lacey

By the County Council, September 20, 2021

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Introduced and first read on September 20, 2021  
Public Hearing set for and held on October 18, 2021  
Bill Expires on December 24, 2021

By Order: Laura Corby, Administrative Officer

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning: Licenses and Registrations – Towing Companies – Towing  
2 or Removal of Vehicles from Parking Lots – Placement of Signs – Regional Malls  
3

4 FOR the purpose of defining “regional mall”; requiring towing signage be placed at each  
5 entrance to a regional mall parking lot; and generally relating to licenses and  
6 registrations.  
7

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments: § 11-16-402  
9 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)  
10

11 WHEREAS, in 2021 the Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 501 that  
12 altered the standards for the placement of tow signs in the parking lots of regional  
13 malls; now, therefore  
14

15 SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,*  
16 That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) read as follows:  
17

### ARTICLE 11. LICENSES AND REGISTRATIONS

#### TITLE 16. TOWING COMPANIES

21  
22 **11-16-402. Parking lot and private road owner and operator requirements.**  
23

24 (A) **Definition.** FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, “REGIONAL MALL” HAS THE MEANING  
25 SET FORTH IN § 21-10A-02 OF THE TRANSPORTATION ARTICLE OF THE STATE CODE.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law.  
[[Brackets]] indicate matter repealed from existing law.  
Captions and taglines in **bold** in this bill are catchwords and are not law.

1        [(a)] (B) **Requirements.** Without a vehicle owner’s permission, the owner or operator  
2 of a parking lot, the agent of an owner or operator, or a duly designated agent of a  
3 community in which there are private roads may not have a vehicle towed or otherwise  
4 removed from the parking lot or private road unless the owner, operator, or agent has placed  
5 in conspicuous locations signs that:

6  
7            (1) are at least 24 inches high and 30 inches wide;

8  
9            (2) are clearly visible to the driver of a vehicle entering or parking in the parking  
10 lot or on the private road;

11  
12            (3) state the name and telephone number of the towing company and the address of  
13 the storage facility to which the vehicle will be towed or removed, and, if different, the  
14 address of the redemption area;

15  
16            (4) state that State and County law requires that a motor vehicle towed from the  
17 parking lot or the private road is available for redemption 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;  
18 and

19  
20            (5) state the maximum amount that the vehicle owner may be charged for the  
21 towing or removal of the vehicle.

22  
23        **[[b)] (C) Number of signs.**

24  
25            (1) **[[An]] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2), AN** owner or operator of a  
26 parking lot, the agent of an owner or operator, or a duly designated agent of a community  
27 in which there are private roads shall place one sign, conforming to the requirements of  
28 subsection **[[a)] (B)**, for every 7,500 square feet of parking space in the parking lot or of  
29 the private road. In addition to meeting the requirements of this section, if the parking lot  
30 or private road has more than one entrance, a sign conforming to the requirements of  
31 subsection **[[a)] (B)** shall be placed at each point of entry into the parking lot or private  
32 road.

33  
34            (2) **AN OWNER OR OPERATOR OF A PARKING LOT OF A REGIONAL MALL, OR THE**  
35 **AGENT OF AN OWNER OR OPERATOR, SHALL PLACE ONE SIGN, CONFORMING TO THE**  
36 **REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B), AT EVERY ENTRANCE TO THE PARKING LOT.**

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38        **[[c)] (D) Traffic control devices on private roads.** The duly designated agent of a  
39 community in which there are private roads shall clearly designate with a traffic control  
40 device for public view, any area in which parking is not permitted, and the community shall  
41 be responsible for the costs of the traffic control device.

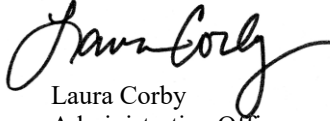
42  
43        **SECTION 2.** *And be it further enacted,* That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days  
44 from the date it becomes law.

READ AND PASSED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021


By Order:

  
Laura Corby  
Administrative Officer

PRESENTED to the County Executive for his approval this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021

  
Laura Corby  
Administrative Officer

APPROVED AND ENACTED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021

  
Steuart Pittman  
County Executive

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 4, 2021

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF  
BILL NO. 82-21 THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH IS RETAINED IN THE FILES  
OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.



Laura Corby  
Administrative Officer