

COUNTY COUNCIL OF



ANNE
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COUNTY

M A R Y L A N D

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY*

To: All Councilmembers of the Anne Arundel County Council

From: Linda M. Schuett, Legislative Counsel

Date: September 20, 2021

Subject: Bill No. 82-21

Under State law, a vehicle may not be towed from a parking lot unless the owner, or someone on behalf of the owner, has placed signs that are at least 24 inches high and 30 inches wide; are clearly visible; state the name of the towing company and the location to which a vehicle will be towed; state that a towed vehicle is available for reclamation 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and provide the telephone number of a person who can be contacted to arrange for reclamation of the vehicle. *See* § 21-10A-02 of the Transportation Article of the State Code.

Under existing State and County law, there must be at least one sign for every 7,500 square feet of parking space. *See* § 21-10A-02(b) of the Transportation Article of the State Code and §11-16-402(b) of the County Code. Senate Bill 501, effective October 1, 2021, exempts regional malls from this requirement and instead requires that a regional mall have signage at every entrance to the parking lot. The State Bill defines "regional mall" as a shopping mall with at least 400,000 square feet of gross leasable area and two anchor stores, with the square footage of anchor stores being excluded from the calculation of gross leasable area.

Bill No. 82-21 conforms Anne Arundel County law to State law. The Bill incorporates the State's definition of a regional mall and requires that a regional mall place signs at every entrance to the parking lot.

* This Legislative Summary provides a synopsis of the bill as introduced. It does not address subsequent amendments to the bill.