

Article - Transportation

21-511.

(a) [(1) At any highway crossing or intersection where traffic is not regulated by a police officer, a blind or partially blind pedestrian has the right-of-way if:

(i) Before attempting to cross, he extends before him a white cane, a cane that is white tipped with red, or a chrome, nickel, aluminum, or other reflecting or shining metal cane; or

(ii) He is accompanied by a dog guide.

(2) At any highway crossing or intersection where traffic is not regulated by a police officer, a deaf or hearing impaired person has the right-of-way if accompanied by a dog guide.

(3) When the driver of a vehicle at or approaching a crossing or intersection sees a blind or partially blind pedestrian described in paragraph (1) of this subsection, or a deaf or hearing impaired pedestrian described in paragraph (2) of this subsection the driver shall:

(i) Immediately stop;

(ii) Leave a clear lane through which the pedestrian may pass; and

(iii) Stay stopped until the pedestrian has passed completely through the crossing or intersection.] THE DRIVER OF A VEHICLE SHALL YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO:

(1) A BLIND OR PARTIALLY BLIND PEDESTRIAN CARRYING A CLEARLY VISIBLE WHITE CANE OR ACCOMPANIED BY A GUIDE DOG; OR

(2) A DEAF OR HEARING IMPAIRED PEDESTRIAN ACCOMPANIED BY A GUIDE DOG.

(b) [This section does not affect the movement of traffic at any highway crossing or intersection where traffic is regulated by a police officer.

(c)] A person who is not blind or partially blind may not use or carry a white cane, a cane that is white tipped with red, or a chrome, nickel, aluminum, or other reflecting or shining metal cane, in the manner described in subsection (a)(1) of this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1991.

May 24, 1991

The Honorable R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr.
Speaker of the House of Delegates