

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 1020 (Delegate Conway, et al.)  
Commerce and Government Matters

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**Vehicle Laws - Provisional Driver's Permits -Student Discipline**

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This bill requires school superintendents and private school principals to notify the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) when a student is suspended or expelled and again when the student is reinstated. When the MVA receives the notice from the school, it must suspend the student's learner's permit, provisional driver's permit, or driver's license. The MVA cannot issue a learner's permit, provisional driver's permit, or reinstate a driver's license unless the student completes one full year of school with an acceptable record, graduates, or receives a graduation equivalent diploma.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Indeterminate increase in Transportation Trust Fund revenues and expenditures.

**Local Effect:** Minimal indeterminate expenditure increase. No effect on revenues. **This bill imposes a mandate on a unit of local government.**

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**Background:** During the 1994-95 school year there were 85,276 suspensions of 51,082 school students. It is unknown how many of these cases are for students in seventh grade or higher.

**State Revenues:** Transportation Trust Fund revenues could increase by an indeterminate amount as the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) charges \$15 for a driver's license reinstatement application and an additional \$30 if the license is reinstated. Any such increase would depend on the actual number of reinstatement applications processed and approved.

**State Expenditures:** The Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) estimates that this bill

would require eight full-time positions to process forms, prepare for administrative hearings, check records, and respond to inquiries and \$58,200 for computer reprogramming.

The Department of Fiscal Services estimates that based on the number of cases, it is likely that the MVA would require additional staff, however it is unlikely that eight positions are necessary. Based on the number of suspensions, it would appear that two positions would be sufficient. This could increase Transportation Trust Fund expenditures by \$37,400 in fiscal 1997. In addition, if other legislation is passed requiring data processing changes, economies of scale regarding computer programming changes could be realized. This would reduce computer programming costs associated with this bill and other legislation affecting the MVA data processing system.

**Local Expenditures:** The State Department of Education estimates that each school system would require one part-time employee to send forms to the MVA. Based on the limited amount of information the schools are required to provide to the MVA and existing State reporting requirements for suspended students, Fiscal Services estimates that most school systems would be able to accommodate this reporting with existing personnel. Data is not readily available to determine the property tax equivalent for each county.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Administrative Hearings, Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 26, 1996

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Analysis by: Robert C. Bates

Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710