

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

House Bill 81 (Delegate R. Baker)
Judiciary

Referred to Judicial Proceedings

Revocation of Driving Privileges - Unlawful Taking or Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle

This amended bill assesses 12 points to a person convicted of the unlawful taking or unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. The bill also provides that the clerk of the court report to the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) a juvenile who is adjudicated delinquent for these violations.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential indeterminate increase in general and special fund revenues. Potential indeterminate increase in special fund expenditures as discussed below.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. This bill would not directly impact small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: A driver's license is revoked after 12 points have accumulated on an individual's driving record. For a first offense, a driver's license is revoked for six months. The MVA collects a \$15 application fee plus \$30 to reinstate a license and a \$10 duplication fee after a revocation.

The District Court reports there were approximately 5,530 violations for these offenses in fiscal 1996. The number of individuals convicted of these offenses is unknown. For illustrative purposes, if 25% of individuals committing such violations are convicted, 1,380 individuals would be assessed 12 points and have their licenses revoked. Assuming that all 1,380 apply for and have their licenses reinstated, Transportation Trust Fund revenues could

increase by \$75,900 annually.

Under the bill, the MVA advises that hearings may be permitted to contest driver's license revocations. The Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) imposes a \$15 fee per hearing which is deposited into the general fund. The number of hearings that may be requested is uncertain. For illustrative purposes, if 50% (690) of the individuals with revoked licenses request a hearing, general fund revenue could increase by \$10,350 annually.

State Expenditures: It costs the MVA approximately \$45 for each MVA hearing at OAH. The number of hearings that may be administered is uncertain. However, assuming that 690 request a hearing, Transportation Trust Fund expenditures could increase by \$33,050 annually.

The MVA advises that two additional positions would be needed to implement the provisions of this bill at a cost of \$35,400 in fiscal 1998 which accounts for the October 1, 1997 effective date. The MVA has indicated that one additional Customer Service Representative would be needed to process revocation orders, handle inquiries, and maintain records, and one Driver Improvement Counselor would be needed to screen and approve incoming applications regarding driver's license reinstatements. The Department of Fiscal Services (DFS) advises that the additional positions may not be justified. A division within the MVA, Administrative Adjudication, already handles inquiries and records related to hearings and could be able to handle the increased workload associated with this bill. Further, the number of resulting revocations under this bill is uncertain. Thus, the workload could be handled with existing resources.

The Juvenile Court could handle the bill's requirements with existing resources.

Information Source(s): Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Judiciary (District Court of Maryland), Department of Fiscal Services

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