

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1133 (Delegate Rosapepe, *et al.*)
Commerce and Government Matters

Prohibition of HOV Lanes on State Highways

This bill prohibits the State Highway Administration (SHA) from designating any portion of a State highway as a high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential significant impact on State finances as discussed below.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None. The bill would not directly affect small businesses.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: Approximately \$42 million in federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds were used for the construction of the HOV lanes on I-270 in Montgomery County. If the lanes may no longer be used as HOV lanes, all or part of the funds may need to be refunded to the federal government. It is uncertain if the funds could be reallocated to other transportation projects.

Currently, about \$2 million of State and federal funds are designated from the Transportation Trust Fund to study the feasibility of constructing HOV lanes on the Capital Beltway in Prince George's and Montgomery counties in fiscal 1998. The bill would cause \$900,000 in federal funds budgeted for these projects to be used for other transportation capital projects.

Additionally, approximately \$25,000 from the Transportation Trust Fund would be needed for SHA to remove the existing HOV signs from poles and overpasses on I-270.

Information Source(s): Department of Transportation (State Highway Administration),
Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 21, 1997

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