

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 47 (Delegate Boutin)
Judiciary

**Drunk and Drugged Driving - Refusal to Submit to Test for Alcohol, Drugs, or
Controlled Dangerous Substances - Suspension of Driver's License**

This bill increases the period of time that the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) must suspend the driver's license of a person who, when detained by a law enforcement officer, refuses to submit to a blood alcohol content (BAC) test.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's changes could be handled with existing budgeted resources. The number of suspensions is not expected to increase.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The suspension period is: (1) 180 days for a first offense; and (2) two years for a second or subsequent offense.

These suspensions apply to: (1) a person licensed in Maryland; (2) a non-resident driver; (3) a person who is detained by a law enforcement officer on suspicion of alcohol and/or drug impaired driving and fails to request a hearing within 30 days of being stopped; and (4) a person who is detained by a law enforcement officer on suspicion of alcohol and/or drug impaired driving and fails to attend a hearing.

Current Law: The suspension period for refusal to submit to a blood alcohol content (BAC) test is: (1) 120 days for a first offense; and (2) one year for a second or subsequent offense.

Background: The District Court reports that in fiscal 2000, 8,804 people refused to submit to a BAC test out of 38,463 charges.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (District Court), Department of State Police, State Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Department of Legislative Services

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ef/jr

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