

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2007 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 802

(Senator Pugh)

Judicial Proceedings

Judiciary

Baltimore City - Released Inmates - Identification Card Pilot Program

This bill requires the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) to establish by regulations a pilot program to provide identification cards to any State resident who was released within the previous year from confinement as an inmate in any correctional facility in Baltimore City, and meets other specified eligibility criteria. The regulations must be adopted and published by December 1, 2007. The program is required to be operational by January 1, 2008. The MVA and DHMH must report to the General Assembly on the results of the identification card pilot program by January 1, 2009.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal. The bill's requirements could be generally handled with the existing budgeted resources of the MVA and DHMH for the duration of the pilot program. Any fee revenue during that period would depend on actual applications. Development of regulations would also be handled with the existing budgeted resources of the MVA and DHMH.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill prohibits a person from fraudulently applying for, or using, an identification card, including by making a misrepresentation.

The bill specifies the required contents of a card, including name, address, birth date, sex, physical description, and color photograph of the applicant.

The bill delineates the reasons for which MVA may cancel an identification card.

Current Law and Background: An application for a noncommercial driver's license must state the full name, Maryland residential address, employer, race, sex, height, weight, general physical condition, and date of birth. A driver's license and an identification card issued by the MVA must contain a color photograph of the applicant. For an individual younger than 21, the photo is a profile photograph.

A new noncommercial license is good for five years and costs \$45. Each renewal license costs \$30. An MVA issued ID card costs \$15 (good for five years) if the applicant is over 16 years old, and \$5, if under 16 (good for two years). A fee is not required for an ID card under the same circumstances that would waive a fee under the provisions of this bill.

All applicants for an initial Maryland driver's license or ID card must present one of the following documents:

- birth certificate, court change of name order, or valid foreign passport or valid INS document, plus one additional primary source of identification with the applicant's signature;
- birth certificate, court change of name order, valid foreign passport or valid INS document, plus two additional secondary sources of identification, one of which must contain the applicant's signature; or
- a document or documents with the applicant's full name and signature if digital image is on file with the MVA and is retrievable for identification purposes.

All applicants must provide two proofs of Maryland residence.

In fiscal 2006, there were 633,743 driver's licenses and identification cards issued by the MVA. Approximately 75% (477,967) were driver's licenses.

Under provisions of the Correctional Services Article, the term "inmate" means an individual who is actually or constructively detained or confined in a correctional facility. In fiscal 2006, the Division of Correction (DOC) released a total of about 6,800 inmates from incarceration. There were also about 40,000 persons in local pretrial detention in Baltimore City.

State Revenues: The MVA advises that a charge of \$3 would be assessed for the issuance of ID cards required under the bill. This would mean that \$3,000 of special fund revenue would be realized for every 1,000 persons issued the card. However, it is unknown how many persons released from a correctional facility in Baltimore City would apply for the new card.

State Expenditures: The MVA advises that the bill's requirements could be handled with existing resources, plus about \$22,500 in computer reprogramming costs. Legislative Services advises that if other legislation is passed requiring computer reprogramming changes, economies of scale could be realized. This would reduce the costs associated with this bill and other legislation affecting the MVA.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Maryland Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

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