

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 500 (Delegate Glass, *et al.*)  
Environmental Matters

---

Vehicle Laws - Motorcycles - Expiration of Learner's Instructional Permit

---

This bill extends the expiration date of certain learner's permits to allow for a longer instructional period. The bill applies to an individual who seeks a license to drive a motorcycle and currently holds a full driver's license for another class of vehicle. The longer validity period is one year from the date of issuance, rather than the current 180-day period that still applies to all other learner's permits under the bill.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) revenues decrease, likely by less than \$25,000, in FY 2014, but increase by a corresponding amount in FY 2015, as the collection of motorcycle license fee revenues are deferred under the bill's longer validity period for certain learner's permits. The Motor Vehicle Administration can implement the bill with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** A learner's permit held by an individual who currently holds a driver's license to operate one class of motor vehicle and desires a driver's license for another class of vehicle expires 180 days after the date of issuance of the permit.

**Background:** In Delaware, a motorcycle learner's permit is valid for six months, while in Virginia and Pennsylvania motorcycle learner's permits are valid for one year.

**State Revenues:** A precise estimate of the decrease in TTF revenues in fiscal 2014 and the corresponding increase in fiscal 2015 cannot be made due to uncertainty regarding the timing of future motorcycle learner's permit issuances. However, for *illustrative purposes only*, TTF revenues may decrease by about \$18,000 in fiscal 2014, and increase by a corresponding amount in fiscal 2015, under the following information and assumptions:

- 2,061 motorcycle learner's permits were issued in fiscal 2012;
- it is assumed that 2,000 motorcycle learner's permits are issued to individuals who currently hold a license to drive another class of vehicle annually;
- 500 motorcycle learner's permit holders are issued a permit between October 1, 2013 (the effective date of the bill) and December 31, 2013;
- each motorcycle learner's permit holder is issued a license; and
- 50% of permit holders receive the license within the extended period of time authorized by the bill.

The actual impact on TTF revenues may vary to the extent the assumptions above differ from actual experience. However, any impact on TTF revenues is a deferral in the realization of revenues from fiscal 2014 to 2015, not an overall decrease in TTF revenues.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** HB 1471 of 2012 was referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee, but no further action was taken.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of Transportation, Delaware Division of Motor Vehicles, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 14, 2013  
mm/ljm

---

Analysis by: Evan M. Isaacson

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510