

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 472

(Senator Mathias)

Judicial Proceedings

Rules and Executive Nominations

Worcester County - Motor Scooters and Mopeds - Special Dealer Decals

This bill authorizes a motor scooter or moped dealer in Worcester County to apply to the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) for special dealer decals, which must be manufactured to allow for the temporary attachment to a motor scooter or moped. A dealer that attaches a temporary decal to a motor scooter or moped may drive the vehicle or allow it to be driven for demonstration purposes if a prospective buyer holds a valid driver's license or moped operator's permit. MVA must establish a fee for the special dealer decal.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2013.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: No likely effect in FY 2013. Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) expenditures increase – negligibly – beginning in FY 2014 for MVA to procure temporary decals and issue them to motor scooter and moped dealers in Worcester County. TTF revenues also increase negligibly from the collection of temporary decal fees from dealers that request such decals. It is assumed that MVA charges a fee that is at least sufficient to cover the costs of issuing the temporary decals.

Local Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Worcester County operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful benefit to a small business moped or motor scooter dealer in Worcester County to the extent the bill's authorization for customers to drive the vehicles for demonstration purposes increases sales.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Chapters 210 and 211 of 2012 (SB 309/HB 149) require the titling of mopeds and motor scooters and establish requirements for required security (insurance) coverage of such vehicles. MVA is required by the new law to issue a permanent decal with a unique number sequence to the owner of a moped or motor scooter issued a certificate of title upon payment of a \$5 fee. The owner must display the decal on the vehicle as prescribed by MVA regulations.

A licensed vehicle dealer may apply to MVA for the issuance of as many special dealer registration plates as MVA authorizes for a vehicle that is mainly used in the dealer's business. A dealer may lend to a prospective buyer for demonstration purposes a vehicle the dealer owns to which is attached a dealer registration plate. However, mopeds and motor scooters are not subject to vehicle registration, and MVA does not issue registration plates for these vehicles.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 1179 (Delegates Conway and Cane) - Environmental Matters.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 18, 2013
mlm/ljm Revised - Senate Third Reader - April 3, 2013

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