

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 654 (Prince George's County Delegation)
Environment and Transportation

Prince George's County - Unattended Motor Vehicle - Exception to Prohibition
PG 313-15

This bill establishes that the prohibition against leaving a motor vehicle unattended until the vehicle is completely stopped with the ignition locked (as specified in the Maryland Vehicle Law) does not apply to a person in charge of a motor vehicle in Prince George's County who had recently started the engine using a remote keyless ignition system.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund revenues decrease – likely negligibly – beginning in FY 2016 from the collection by the District Court of fewer penalties under the bill's exemption. Expenditures are not affected.

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

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, a person driving or otherwise in charge of a motor vehicle may not leave it unattended until the engine is stopped, the ignition locked, the key removed, and the brake effectively set. The prohibition does not apply to an on-duty law enforcement officer or an animal control officer who leaves a cat or dog in the officer's unattended vehicle. A violation of the prohibition is a misdemeanor, subject to a maximum fine of \$500. The prepayment penalty established by the District Court is \$70 and one point against the driver's license.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Prince George's County, the Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 13, 2015
mel/ljm

Analysis by: Evan M. Isaacson

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