

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

House Bill 330 (Delegates Fraser-Hidalgo and Kramer)  
Environment and Transportation

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Vehicle Laws - Young Drivers - Hour Restriction

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This bill reduces the hours during which a provisional driver's license holder younger than age 18 may drive unsupervised, such that the license holder may only drive unsupervised from 5 a.m. until 10 p.m., rather than from 5 a.m. until 12 midnight. The bill does not alter specified circumstances in which the provisional driver's license holder is permitted to drive unsupervised during otherwise restricted hours.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues to the extent that more individuals receive citations due to the bill's more stringent hour restrictions. Expenditures are not affected.

**Local Effect:** Any changes to local police enforcement processes can be handled with existing resources. Local government revenues are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law/Background:** The Motor Vehicle Administration must impose an hour restriction on a provisional driver's license holder younger than age 18. The restriction must limit the license holder to driving unsupervised only between the hours of 5 a.m. and 12 midnight.

However, this general requirement does not preclude the license holder from driving between 12 midnight and 5 a.m. the following day if the licensee is (1) accompanied and

supervised by a licensed driver who is at least age 21; (2) driving to or from (or in the course of) the licensee's employment; (3) driving to or from a school class or official school activity; (4) driving to or from an organized volunteer program; or (5) driving to or from an opportunity to participate in an athletic event or related training session.

The hour restriction and supervision requirement expires on the date the holder of the provisional license turns age 18.

A violation of any of these requirements is a misdemeanor, subject to a maximum fine of \$500. The prepayment penalty established by the District Court for these violations is \$70. According to the District Court, there were 324 violations issued in fiscal 2016 for violations of provisional license requirements.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Department of State Police; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 15, 2017  
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