

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 707

(Senators Norman and Cassilly)

Judicial Proceedings

Environment and Transportation

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Vehicle Law - Waste and Recycling Collection Vehicles - Use of Yellow and  
Amber Lights (The Senator Bob Hooper Sanitation Safety Act)

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This bill authorizes a waste or recycling collection vehicle to be equipped with or display yellow or amber lights or signal devices in the course of official duties, to indicate to the public that the vehicle is slow moving and/or may impede traffic.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Enforcement can be handled with existing resources. Revenues are not materially affected.

**Local Effect:** Enforcement can be handled with existing resources. Revenues are not affected.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** A person may not drive or move, on any highway, any vehicle or equipment that is equipped with or displays any light or signal device designed to emit an oscillating, rotating, blinking, or other type of emission of light, unless authorized under State law. Generally, flashing lights are authorized for emergency vehicles, service vehicles, school vehicles, and other specified vehicles. A violation of this provision is a misdemeanor, and the violator is subject to a maximum fine of \$500. The prepayment penalty assessed by the District Court is \$60.

Service vehicles, rural letter carrier vehicles, slow moving farm vehicles, and tow trucks may be equipped with or display yellow or amber lights or signal devices. These lights may be flashed or oscillated or otherwise used only in the course of official duties, to indicate to the public that the vehicle is slow moving or otherwise is impeding traffic. In addition, a vehicle used to provide public transit service may be equipped with and display amber flashing lights or a white flashing light installed on the roof of the vehicle.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 952 (Delegate Healey, *et al.*) - Environment and Transportation.

**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 21, 2017  
fn/kdm Third Reader - March 28, 2017  
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