

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 146

(Delegate Fennell, *et al.*)

Environment and Transportation

Judicial Proceedings

Motor Vehicles - Duplicate Driver's Licenses - Victims of Robbery or Theft

This bill requires the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to issue a duplicate license free of charge to a victim of a robbery or theft whose license is taken if the driver applying for a duplicate license presents a police report of the robbery or theft.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: MVA can implement the bill's requirements with existing resources. Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) revenues decrease, likely minimally, beginning in FY 2020 as fewer individuals pay a duplicate license fee.

Local Effect: The bill does not affect local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Should a driver's license be lost, stolen, mutilated, or destroyed, the driver is required to immediately apply for a duplicate license. Failure to do so is a misdemeanor; the prepaid fine established by the District Court is \$70.

MVA notes that it currently has a process in place to address situations in which a victim of a crime seeks to obtain a duplicate driver's license. However, such an individual is charged a \$20 duplicate license fee.

State Revenues: Because the \$20 duplicate license fee may no longer be charged by MVA in the circumstance specified under the bill, TTF revenues decrease, likely minimally,

beginning in fiscal 2020. MVA advises that it does not track the number of replacement driver's licenses that are issued as a result of robbery or theft. However, the anticipated decrease in revenues as a result of the bill is expected to be minimal.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: HB 132 of 2018, a nearly identical bill, passed the House and was referred to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, but no further action was taken. Its cross file, SB 580, received a hearing in the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, but no further action was taken.

Cross File: SB 887 (Senator Augustine) - Judicial Proceedings.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 5, 2019
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