

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 50 (Senator Craig)
Judicial Proceedings

Driver's Education - Laboratory and Classroom Instruction - Required Hours

This bill increases from six to 10 the amount of laboratory instruction time that a driver under the age of 18 is required to complete to be eligible for a noncommercial drivers' license. The bill also reduces from 30 to 20 hours the minimum amount of classroom instruction time required for an approved driver education program.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. This bill does not directly affect governmental operations or finances.

Local Effect: Potential indeterminate increase in revenues and expenditures for Baltimore, Charles, Garrett, and Prince George's county school districts.

Fiscal Analysis

Local Effect: Expenditures could increase for school districts where driver's education courses do not currently offer at least 10 hours of laboratory instruction and the school districts wish to meet the minimum number of hours required. Currently only four school districts (in Baltimore, Charles, Garrett, and Prince George's counties) offer driver's education classes. This increase in expenditures could be at least partially offset by a decrease in costs for classroom instruction. While the average hourly costs of classroom and laboratory instruction are unknown, it is assumed that laboratory instruction costs are higher. In addition, school districts could increase driver's education fees, further offsetting the increase in expenditures.

Information Source(s): Maryland Association of Boards of Education; Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration); Department of Education; Department of

Fiscal Services

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Analysis by: Robert C. Bates

Reviewed by: John Rixey

(410) 841-3710

(301) 858-3710

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst