

**Department of Fiscal Services**  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 412 (Chairman, Commerce and Government Matters Committee, et al.)  
(Departmental - Transportation)

Commerce and Government Matters

Referred to Finance

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**Transportation - Electronic Toll Collection and Enforcement**

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This amended departmental bill pertains to the collection and enforcement of electronic tolls. It authorizes the Maryland Transportation Authority (MTA) to issue a notice of liability based on evidence collected by a video monitoring system at an electronic toll collection booth. The bill provides that such notices of liability be issued to the owner of the vehicle. The bill requires the owner of the vehicle to pay the toll and penalty directly to MTA or stand trial in District Court. The Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) is prohibited from registering or transferring the registration of any vehicle involved in a failure to pay a toll violation. The bill also exempts toll collection records from public disclosure.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Indeterminate increase in special fund revenues and expenditures as discussed below.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Transportation has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Fiscal Services concurs with this assessment. (The attached assessment does not reflect amendments to the bill.)

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Revenues:** The MTA also advises that \$2.5 million in funding is included in the capital budget for the installation of monitoring and enforcement systems. The MTA also advises that passage of this bill could result in the avoidance of an \$840,000 annual revenue loss. Further, the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) estimates that revenues could increase by \$180,000 annually from the imposition of a \$20 additional registration fee on

18,000 vehicle owners failing to satisfy a notice of liability.

**The Department of Fiscal Services advises that data to support these estimates were not provided. Hence, Fiscal Services advises that the provisions of this bill could increase special fund revenues by an amount that cannot be reliably estimated at this time.**

**State Expenditures:** This bill requires the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to flag the registration records for those persons failing to satisfy the notices of liability and to refuse to register such vehicles until the tolls and fines are paid. The MVA advises that data processing expenditures could increase by an estimated \$33,000 to program the changes proposed in this legislation. The Department of Fiscal Services advises that if other legislation is passed requiring data processing changes, economies of scale regarding computer programming changes could be realized. This would reduce computer programming costs associated with this bill and other legislation affecting the MVA data processing system.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Transportation (Maryland Transportation Authority, Motor Vehicle Administration), Department of Fiscal Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 13, 1996  
ncs Revised - House Third Reader - March 25, 1996

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