

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 766 (Senator Dorman)
Judicial Proceedings

Vehicle Laws - Vehicle Registration - Political Subdivisions and State Agencies

This bill permits the Motor Vehicle Administration to designate State agencies as agents to issue vehicle registrations and non-resident vehicle permits. It also permits agents to collect a \$4 processing fee for issuing a non-resident permit. In addition, a local agency that registers vehicles is permitted to retain part of the fee for renewing a license when the initial renewal application was denied because of unresolved parking tickets.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential increase in revenues and expenditures; indeterminate effect on Transportation Trust Fund revenues and expenditures.

Local Effect: Potential indeterminate increase in revenue and expenditures, as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: The bill permits State agencies to act as agents for the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to register motor vehicles. Any agency that does so is permitted to add \$1 to the registration fee. To the extent that State agencies register motor vehicles, revenues could increase, offset by the cost of issuing the registrations.

The bill permits State agencies to act as agents for the MVA to issue non-resident vehicle permits. Any agency that does so is permitted to add \$4 to the permit fee. To the extent that State agencies issue non-resident permits, revenues could increase, offset by the cost of issuing the permits.

The bill permits State agencies to act as agents for the MVA to clear parking violation flags

from motor vehicle registrations. The fee to clear flags is \$20, and the bill permits State agencies to retain a part of that fee. To the extent that State agencies clear parking violation flags, revenues could increase, offset by the cost of issuing the permits.

To the extent that State agencies other than the MVA and local agencies issue vehicle registrations, non-resident vehicle permits, or clear parking violation flags Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) expenditures could decrease. In addition, to the extent that State and local agencies clear parking violation flags, TTF revenue would decrease. Any such decrease would depend on the amount retained by the non-MVA agency. Although there are several State agencies authorized to issue parking tickets and would thus be eligible to collect the \$4 fee for clearing a parking flag, this provision is most likely to affect higher education institutions.

The MVA advises that this bill would require a \$51,200 cost for computer reprogramming. 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. The MVA also estimates each agency that issues permits and registrations and clears flags would incur computer equipment costs of \$34,180.

The overall effect on State revenues and expenditures resulting from this bill cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

Local Effect: To the extent that local agencies issue non-resident vehicle permits, local revenue would increase, offset by the cost of issuing the permits. To the extent that local agencies clear parking flags, local revenue could increase, offset by the cost of clearing the flags. Any effect on local revenues cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

Information Source(s): Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Garrett County, Department of Fiscal Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 4, 1996

ncs

Analysis by: Robert C. Bates
Reviewed by: John Rixey

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 841-3710
(301) 858-3710