

Department of Fiscal Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1378 (Delegate Ciliberti)  
Judiciary

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**Vehicle Laws - Drugged and Drunk Driving -  
Seizure and Sale of Motor Vehicle on Third Conviction**

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This bill requires the courts to seize and sell a vehicle owned and operated by a person convicted of a third violation of driving while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or controlled dangerous substances. It provides for the protection of lienholders and distribution of the proceeds.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Indeterminate effect on Transportation Trust Fund revenues and expenditures.

**Local Effect:** Potential increase in expenditures, offset by proceeds from the sale of seized vehicles.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Revenues:** Proceeds from the sale of a seized vehicle shall be used to pay lienholders, and storage, towing, and sale costs. The bill specifies that 25% of any remaining funds must go to the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to promote education and rehabilitation of drugged and drunk drivers and the remainder to the prior owner of the vehicle. Any such increase in revenues would depend on the value and number of seized cars and the amount remitted to the MVA and cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

**State Expenditures:** The District Court advises that it would require a one-time expenditure to program District Court automation systems to flag cases in which the court was required to seize the vehicle. Alternatively, if a State's Attorney is required to provide the information on prior convictions, the bill would not significantly increase the operating costs of the court.

Titling vehicles on court orders is a function currently performed by the MVA. The MVA anticipates it would be able to handle the expected number of new titling orders with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** It is assumed that the courts would have the sheriff's office seize and sell the vehicle or turn the vehicle over to the lienholder. This would increase the expenses of the sheriffs' offices, however these costs can be recovered from the proceeds of the vehicle sale. The amount of any increase in expenditures and revenues cannot be reliably estimated at this time.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 6, 1996

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