

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 821 (Senator Forehand)
Judicial Proceedings

Referred to Judiciary

Motor Vehicles - Ignition Interlock System

This amended bill provides that if an individual is convicted of driving with a suspended or revoked license due to alcohol and/or drug related driving offenses, a court may prohibit the individual from operating a motor vehicle unless an ignition interlock system has been installed on the vehicle.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate increase in Transportation Trust Fund revenues. The Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) could handle the bill's requirements with existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal effect on small businesses that install ignition interlock systems.

Fiscal Analysis

State Revenues: In fiscal 1996, there were 9,109 convictions for driving while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. In addition, there were approximately 245 convictions for driving while privileges were canceled, suspended, refused, or revoked in fiscal 1996. It is unknown the how often an individual with a suspended or revoked license due to alcohol and/or drug related driving offenses would be convicted of driving while privileges are suspended or revoked. Further, since the bill is authorizing in nature, it is uncertain how often a court may order the ignition interlock system be installed. To operate a vehicle with the ignition interlock system installed, the driver's license must be modified to reflect this restriction. The MVA collects a \$10 fee to issue a restricted license. For illustrative purposes only, assuming that in fiscal 1996 the court ordered 15% of the potential

9,354 individuals to install an ignition interlock system in their vehicle, Transportation Trust Fund revenues would have increased by \$13,650.

Small Business Effect: This bill could result in the installation of a number of ignition interlock systems at an estimated cost of \$50 each. In addition to installation charges, vendors charge a monthly leasing fee of approximately \$55 per system. Thus, small businesses that provide ignition interlock systems could realize an increase in sales.

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

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