

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 554 (Delegate Morgan)

Commerce and Government Matters

Radar Jamming Devices - Prohibition

This bill prohibits the use of a motor vehicle that is equipped with a “radar jamming device” unless the device: (1) has no power source and is inoperable; (2) is being transported outside the compartment of the vehicle designed to carry the driver or any passengers; and (3) is not readily accessible for use by the driver or any passengers. Violators are subject to a fine of up to \$500. Additionally, two points would be assessed on the violator’s driving record.

The bill also provides that a person may not sell or offer to sell a radar jamming device. Violators are subject to a fine of \$500.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Indeterminate general fund revenue increase from the penalty provision applicable to this offense. Any increase is assumed to be minimal. The bill’s requirements could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: None. Enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal. The number of small businesses that sell radar jamming devices is assumed to be minimal. Those businesses will be prohibited from selling such devices and will experience a minimal decrease in sales. Additionally, to the extent that drivers accumulate additional points on their driving records, small businesses that provide driver improvement programs may experience an indeterminate increase in business.

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

Fiscal Note History:

First Reader - February 17, 1998

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