

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 228 (Senator Ruben)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Vehicle Laws - Mandatory Seat Belt Use**

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This bill expands the application of the mandatory seat belt requirement by prohibiting a person who is at least 16 years old from being a passenger in any seat of a motor vehicle without wearing a seat belt. Current law requires that only those passengers in the outboard front seats of the motor vehicle must be restrained by a seat belt.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Indeterminate general fund revenue increase from the penalty provision applicable to this offense under the Maryland Vehicle Law (maximum \$500 fine). Any increase is assumed to be minimal. Expenditures would not be affected as enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

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

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of State Police, Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 6, 1998

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