

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 542 (Delegate Crvor. *et al.*)

Judiciary

Crimes - Vehicular Manslaughter and Homicide by Motor Vehicle While Intoxicated - Penalties

This bill subjects persons convicted of vehicular manslaughter or homicide by motor vehicle or vessel while intoxicated to a mandatory minimum sentence of 60 days. The bill provides that the mandatory minimum sentence may not be suspended. The maximum incarceration penalty for homicide by motor vehicle or vessel while intoxicated is increased from 5 years to 10 years. In addition, the bill prohibits a hearing officer from declining, canceling, or modifying suspensions or revocations connected with such convictions even if the person's employment is adversely affected.

Under current law, persons convicted of vehicular manslaughter are guilty of a felony and subject to maximum penalties of a fine of \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for 10 years; persons convicted of the homicide charge are guilty of a felony and subject to maximum penalties of a fine of \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for 5 years.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Establishing these mandatory minimum sentences and prohibitions applicable to hearing officers should not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Division of Correction), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 15, 1999

dmm/jr

Analysis by: Guy G. Cherry

Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 946-5510

(301) 970-5510