

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 367 (Senator Middleton)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Motor Vehicle Registration Fees - Exemptions - Surviving Spouse of Deceased  
Disabled Veterans**

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This bill exempts a vehicle that is owned and personally used by an individual who is at least 65 years old and is the surviving spouse of a deceased disabled veteran from the motor vehicle registration fee.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Minimal decrease in special fund revenues due to the exemption added by the bill. No effect on expenditures.

**Local Effect:** Minimal decrease in revenues.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Effect:** The \$70 motor vehicle registration fee is charged on a biennial basis. The fee is split \$16 to the Maryland Emergency Medical System Operations Fund to benefit Med-Evac services and \$54 to the Gasoline and Motor Vehicle Revenue Account (GMVRA). The GMVRA is a shared revenue source, of which 70% is allocated to the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) and 30% is allocated to the local jurisdictions.

There are 2,491 veterans in the State classified as disabled based on the definition in the bill. While there is no data on the number of widows of deceased disabled veterans, it is assumed there are a similar level of such individuals in the State. It is further assumed that the majority of widows of deceased disabled veterans are over 65 years old.

Assuming there are 2,500 individuals eligible for the exemption, total revenues over the two-year registration cycle would decrease by \$175,000, or \$87,500 annually. Funding for Med-Evac services would decrease by \$20,000 annually and revenues distributed to the GMVRA would decrease by \$67,500 annually. Accordingly, TTF revenues would decrease by \$47,250 or 70% of the loss to the GMVRA.

It is assumed that the Motor Vehicle Administration could handle any additional workload associated with extending the registration fee exemption to widows of disabled veterans with existing resources.

**Local Effect:** The GMVRA is distributed 70% to the TTF and 30% to local jurisdictions. The local distribution is split with Baltimore City receiving the greater of \$157,500,000 or 11.5% and the remainder distributed to the 23 counties and then shared with municipal corporations within each county. It is assumed that this bill would result in a total loss to the jurisdictions of about \$20,250 annually.

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**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Maryland Veterans Commission, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 22, 1999  
dmm/jr

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