

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

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 318 (Delegate Love. *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

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**Support Services - For-Hire Driving**

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This bill exempts governmental or nonprofit organization drivers who provide specified transportation services from the Public Service Commission's driver licensing requirements. The specified transportation services include aging support, developmental and other disabilities, kidney dialysis, medical assistance program, head start, welfare-to-work, mental health, and job training services. The bill also requires such a governmental unit or nonprofit organization to obtain a criminal history records check of a driver through the Criminal Justice Information System. However, a governmental unit or nonprofit organization may not obtain a criminal history records check or driving records check of a driver employed as of October 1, 1999 solely for the purpose of providing any of the specified transportation services.

The bill does not limit the application of the licensing requirements for drivers who operate motor vehicles for-hire or provide transportation of persons for hire in addition to providing transportation services that meet the bill's exemption. Moreover, a nonprofit organization that provides transportation for remuneration to specified clients may be required to obtain a carrier permit, but a driver employed by the nonprofit organization may not be required to obtain a for-hire driver's license.

The bill also provides the procedures for applying for and issuing a criminal history records check as well as the procedure for challenging the contents of a printed statement issued by the Criminal Justice Information System Central Repository.

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## Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill would not affect State finances.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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## Fiscal Analysis

**Background:** Chapter 705 of 1997 requires drivers of for-hire motor vehicles to have a license issued by the Public Service Commission (PSC) and provides for the application, issuance, renewal, and fees of for-hire drivers' licenses, including a required criminal record check and driver record check.

**State Effect:** The bill exempts approximately 350 drivers from the PSC licensing requirements. However, the bill would not affect the PSC's finances because the number of exempt drivers represents a small proportion of the PSC's overall responsibility in this area. Moreover, although these drivers would not be licensed through the PSC, the bill requires these drivers to apply for a criminal record history check for each driver through the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS). In addition, the bill requires each driver to pay the fees associated with the criminal history record check. Therefore, State finances would not be affected.

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**Information Source(s):** Department of Human Resources; Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Mental Hygiene Administration); Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (Data Services Division); Public Service Commission; Office on Aging; Department of Transportation; Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; Department of Legislative Services

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