

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 32 (Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee)  
(Departmental - Transportation)

Judicial Proceedings

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**Vehicle Law - Vehicle Registration - New Maryland Resident**

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This departmental bill increases the time allowed for a new Maryland resident to register a vehicle in the State and to pay the corresponding vehicle excise tax from 30 days to 60 days.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Potential minimal decrease in general fund fine revenue. Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) revenues would not be affected.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Department of Transportation has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** When a new resident moves into the State, he or she has 30 days in which to transfer a vehicle's registration to Maryland. At the time of registration the new resident must also pay the vehicle excise tax.

**Background:** Most surrounding states, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, allow 60 days to re-register an out-of-state car. West Virginia and New York allow 30 days for this process. There are reciprocity agreement policies in North Carolina and the District of Columbia. Also, North Carolina allows an extension for registration until the new resident

is employed.

The bill is a customer service initiative for the Motor Vehicle Administration.

**State Revenues:** Increasing the time frame allowed to register an out-of-state car in Maryland will decrease the number of people who are in violation of the registration requirement. Accordingly, fewer citations for failing to register a vehicle in Maryland may be written. The fine for operating an unregistered vehicle is \$270. In fiscal 1999 there were 20,329 citations written for this offense. While the number of these citations involving new residents is unknown, it is assumed to not represent a significant proportion of the total.

The bill is not expected to affect the total number of vehicle owners applying for registration and therefore would not affect registration fee revenue or titling tax revenue.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 13, 2000  
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