

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2000 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 1274 (Delegate Wood, *et al.*)

Commerce and Government Matters

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**Motor Vehicle Administration - Drivers' Licenses and Identification Cards**

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This bill repeals the requirement that an individual appear in person for a driver's license renewal application. However, the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) may not renew a license for more than one consecutive term without requiring the individual to appear in person at an MVA office. It further repeals the requirement that driver's license and identification card photographs be taken in the profile view for those drivers under the age of 21.

The bill also increases the period in which the MVA may renew an expired license from six months to one year without requiring a driver's test.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill's changes are procedural in nature and will not affect the finances of the MVA.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** A driver's license is renewable every five years on the presentation of an application in person. For drivers under 21 years of age, the MVA must include a profile photograph of the licensee on the license. Further, the MVA may renew a driver's license within six months of the expiration date without requiring a driving test.

**Background:** Most of the bill's changes are to accommodate an upgrade of the MVA's driver licensing system scheduled for July 2001. The proposed fiscal 2001 budget includes \$15 million for the replacement of the existing photo licensing system with one that is capable of storing driver license data, motor vehicle data, organ donor data, related financial data, and the creation of a paperless license application process to improve workflow efficiency and customer service.

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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 - March 14, 2000  
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