

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 781 (Delegate Dewberry) (By Request)
Commerce and Government Matters

Vehicle Laws - Equipment of Vehicles - Fog Lamps

This bill prohibits the use of front-mounted fog lamps when a vehicle's upper or lower headlamps are lighted. A violation of this bill's provision carries a maximum penalty of \$25.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Minimal increase in general fund revenues as a result of the bill's penalty provision. Enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: Enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Fog lamps may be mounted on the front of the vehicle from 12 to 30 inches off the ground and adjusted so that at 25 feet in front of the vehicle the high-intensity portion of the light is at least 4 inches lower than the fog lamp. A fog lamp meeting these requirements may be used when the headlamps are set on low beam.

Background: Many states have requirements regarding the setting and use of fog lamps. Several states, including Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, and Delaware, have laws nearly identical to Maryland's, but no state prohibits the use of fog lamps.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): National Conference of State Legislatures, Judiciary (District Court), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 19, 2001
ncs/jr

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