Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 36

(Delegate Boschert)

Judiciary

Drivers' Licenses - Alcohol Restriction - Revocation

This bill requires the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to revoke a driver's license if the licensee violates a license alcohol restriction. The bill also requires an individual who requests reinstatement of a revoked license to complete a specified number of community service hours. The bill expands the type of offenses for which a repeat offender may receive a three-year license alcohol restriction.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill's requirements could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: Local expenditures could increase to the extent that a local jurisdiction is responsible for administering and overseeing any additional community service hours imposed as a result of the bill.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The MVA, subject to a hearing, may revoke the driver's license of a person who is under the age of 21 (a minor) if it receives satisfactory evidence that the licensee is guilty of: (1) driving while intoxicated or intoxicated per se; (2) driving while under the influence of alcohol; or (3) driving while under the influence of drugs or a combination of drugs and alcohol.

If a person is guilty of the referenced violations, the MVA shall reinstate the license only after the licensee has completed 40 hours of community service.

The MVA shall place an alcohol restriction on the license of any person who is twice convicted, within a five-year period, of committing homicide or causing a life threatening injury by motor vehicle or vessel while intoxicated. If a licensee is convicted of any of the offenses referenced in the bill a third or subsequent time within a seven-year period, then the MVA may reinstate the license only after the licensee has completed 80 hours of community service.

Current Law: A license alcohol restriction prohibits the licensee from driving or attempting to drive a motor vehicle if the person has a blood alcohol content greater than .02. All minor licensees have alcohol-restricted licenses. It is also a penalty option that may be imposed on a driver who is convicted of any alcohol and/or drug impaired driving violation.

Community service hours may be imposed on a driver who is convicted of any alcohol and/or drug impaired driving violations. There are no mandatory community service hours as a condition to having a revoked license reinstated.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): State Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Office of Administrative Hearings, Judiciary (District Court), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 16, 2001

cm/jr

Analysis by: Brian D. Baugus Direct Inquiries to:

John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst

(410) 946-5510 (301) 970-5510