

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 656 (Delegate C. Davis)
Commerce and Government Matters

Vehicle Laws - Towing - Persons with a Disability

This bill prohibits the State and local governments from authorizing the towing of a vehicle that displays a special registration plate or temporary parking placard for a disabled person unless the vehicle is abandoned.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The State primarily tows vehicles on highways that are inoperable.

Local Effect: Potential minimal decrease in revenues.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Persons who display special registration plates issued under Title 13, Subtitle 6, can park for unlimited periods of time in parking zones that normally restrict parking times or for up to four hours at metered spaces, and do not have to pay any local or State fees at meters that fail to meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Parking privileges extended by statute do not apply to zones where stopping, standing, or parking is prohibited to all vehicles, zones reserved for special types of vehicles, or where parking would clearly present a hazard or interfere with rush hour.

Abandoned vehicles include those that are inoperable and left unattended on public property for more than 48 hours or left in a parking lot garage for more than ten days without authorization from the owner.

Local Revenues: To the extent that the bill reduces or eliminates towing fees paid by disabled drivers, local revenues will decrease.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader – February 16, 2001
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Analysis by: Ann Marie Maloney

Direct Inquiries to:
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510