

Department of Legislative Services  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2002 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

Senate Bill 167 (Senator Hafer, *et al.*)  
 Judicial Proceedings

**Vehicle Laws - Motorcycle Helmets - Minors**

This bill provides that motorcycle helmet laws apply only to minors.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** FY 2003 general fund expenditures could increase by \$5,000 for reprinting of a manual and development of a brochure. Potential minimal decrease in general fund revenues due to fewer citations for helmet violations. Enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

(in dollars)	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
GF Revenue	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
GF Expenditure	5,000	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$5,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect*

**Local Effect:** Enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Anyone riding on or operating a motorcycle must wear a helmet.

**State Fiscal Effect:** The Motor Vehicle Administration advises that the bill would require a one-time expenditure of \$5,000 in fiscal 2003 to update the motorcycle operator's manual and develop a brochure.

Approximately 300 citations are issued statewide each year for failure to wear a helmet while riding on or operating a motorcycle. Presumably, most of these citations are issued to adults, but those numbers are not readily available. The citation carries a fine of \$60. General fund revenues could decrease minimally if fewer citations are issued for violations of helmet laws. As a point of reference, if all of these citations were to result in collection of the \$60 fine, revenues would decrease by \$18,000.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** In 2001, SB 197 passed out of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, but failed on second reading in the Senate. In 1999, SB 239 also failed on second reading after passing out of Judicial Proceedings.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Transportation (Motor Vehicle Administration), Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 18, 2002  
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