

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2002 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**

House Bill 18 (Delegates Boschert and Leopold)  
Commerce and Government Matters

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**Anne Arundel County - Highways - Prohibition on Use for Solicitation**

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This bill prohibits a person from standing in a roadway, median divider, or intersection in Anne Arundel County to solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle.

The bill is effective June 1, 2002.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** Potential minimal increase in expenditures for one county to install signs.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Individuals are not allowed to stand in a roadway to solicit a ride, employment, or business from the occupant of any vehicle unless they are soliciting help because of a disabled vehicle. Violators are subject to a \$50 fine. The law does not specifically prohibit soliciting donations or money from a median divider or intersection, except in Charles County.

**Background:** The General Assembly endorsed a similar bill in 2001 (Chapter 585) that prohibits a person in Charles County from standing in a road or on a median strip to solicit money or donations from the occupant of a vehicle. That law further authorizes

the Charles County Commissioners to enact ordinances that bar the use of controlled access highways under the county's jurisdiction by any person soliciting money, donations, employment, business, or a ride.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** Anne Arundel County would incur a minimal expense to erect appropriate signs.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal. Roadside businesses are already prohibited in some local jurisdictions. However, the Department of Legislative Services notes that the bill may affect some nonprofit organizations (e.g., local fire departments, advocacy groups, charities) in Anne Arundel County that conduct fundraising from median dividers and controlled access highways. Some of these organizations may be small nonprofits.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Anne Arundel County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 25, 2002  
mam/jr

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