

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2002 Session

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 109 (Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee)
 (Departmental – Transportation)

Judicial Proceedings Commerce and Government Matters

Motor Vehicle Administration - Identification Cards

This departmental bill removes the requirement that identification cards issued by the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) must be renewed every five years by persons who do not pay a fee for the card.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) expenditures would decrease by approximately \$10,000 in FY 2003 through reduced customer transactions. Future year decreases reflect annualization and inflation. However, TTF expenditures could increase significantly in FY 2003 only due to computer programming changes. Revenues would not be affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SF Expenditure	(10,000)	(13,500)	(13,600)	(13,800)	(13,900)
Net Effect	\$10,000	\$13,500	\$13,600	\$13,800	\$13,900

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

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: The Department of Transportation has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

Analysis

Current Law: The MVA issues identification cards to any State resident who does not have a driver's license and can present a completed application as well as proof of age and identity acceptable to the MVA. The card contains the applicant's name, address, birth date, sex, physical description, color photograph, and signature, and may be used as legal identification for any purpose. The card must be renewed every five years with the submission of a fee and application. Persons who are exempt from the fee must also reapply for the identification card.

A fee is not required if the applicant is 65 years or older, legally blind, has permanently lost the use of a leg or an arm, is permanently disabled, or has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity as defined by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Major life activities as defined by the ADA include such activities as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.

Background: The MVA advises that, under current policy, identification cards can be reissued through the Internet or at local shopping malls but that a recipient must visit the MVA every ten years to get a new photograph. This requirement may be a hardship on elderly citizens or those with disabilities because visits to the MVA can be physically or logistically difficult or expensive.

State Expenditures: The MVA estimates that the proposed bill will affect 100,000 people over five years (20,000 cards annually). However, it advises that approximately 25% of card recipients will continue to visit the MVA to replace their cards. Therefore, MVA will not be required to re-issue approximately 15,000 cards that cost 89 cents each to produce. TTF expenditures will therefore decline by approximately \$10,000 in fiscal 2002 (\$13,600 on an annualized basis).

The MVA also advises that the bill's requirements would necessitate a change to the driver licensing system by the agency's vendor, who estimates that it would cost \$161,600. The Department of Legislative Services acknowledges the bill may increase computer programming costs, but advises that: (1) several changes to the licensing system may be required pursuant to legislation enacted in 2002; economies of scale need to be pursued to avoid prohibitive costs for every system change needed; and (2) the cost estimates provided by the vendor are significantly higher than the estimates given by internal MVA technology staff in previous years.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Justice, Department of Legislative Services

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