

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2003 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 866
Judiciary

(Delegate Bartlett, *et al.*)

Vehicle Laws - Accidents Involving Death or Bodily Injury - Duty to Stop

This bill adds the requirement that a driver in an accident resulting in bodily injury or death must stop within view of the scene of an accident.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Enforcement of the bill's provisions could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: Enforcement of the bill's provisions could be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The driver of each vehicle involved in an accident that results in the bodily injury or death of another person must stop the vehicle as close as possible to the scene of the accident, without obstructing traffic more than necessary. Each driver must return to and remain at the scene of the accident until each driver has given aid and information as required.

A person who violates these provisions and the accident resulted in bodily injury to another person is subject to a maximum fine of \$3,000, imprisonment for not more than one year, or both. A person who violates these provisions and the accident resulted in the death of another person is subject to a maximum fine of \$5,000, imprisonment for not more than five years, or both. Whether the accident results in bodily injury or death, a

violation of these provisions requires the assessment of 12 points against the driver's license and revocation of the license by the Motor Vehicle Administration.

The driver of each vehicle involved in an accident that results in bodily injury or death must render reasonable assistance to any injured person and arrange for transportation of the injured for medical treatment upon request, or if it is apparent that medical treatment is necessary. Each driver involved in the accident must give his or her name, address, vehicle registration number, and on request, exhibit the driver's license to any person injured in the accident and the driver, occupant, or person attending any vehicle damaged in the accident. The same information must be provided to any police officer who is at the scene of, or investigating the accident. If no one at the accident scene is able to receive the information, then the driver, after remaining at the scene and rendering assistance, must report the accident to the nearest police authority and provide the required information. A person who violates these provisions is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to a maximum fine of \$500, imprisonment not exceeding two months, or both.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Department of Legislative Services

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