

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2003 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 876

(Delegate Rudolph)

Environmental Matters

Judicial Proceedings

**Motor Vehicle Administration - Identification Cards for Children - Expiration Date**

This bill alters, from five years to two years, the amount of time that an identification card remains effective for a person under the age of 16 years.

The bill is effective January 1, 2004.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) revenues would increase by \$25,000 in FY 2004 (assuming a \$5 fee), due to new applicants for State ID cards. TTF expenditures would increase by \$16,400 due to anticipated workload increase accounting for a January 1, 2004 start date. In FY 2005, TTF revenues would increase by \$25,000, offset by expenditures of \$15,800. Out-years reflect a two-year renewal cycle, brochure production and ID card mailing costs, annualization, and inflation.

(in dollars)	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
SF Revenue	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$5,000
SF Expenditure	16,400	15,800	3,100	2,400	1,600
Net Effect	\$8,600	\$9,200	\$9,400	\$10,100	\$3,400

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Current Law:** The Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) is required to issue an identification card to any individual who is a State resident, does not have a driver's license, presents a birth certificate or other acceptable proof of age and identity, and presents a completed application for an identification card. The MVA must establish a fee for the issuance of identification cards and duplicate identification cards. The fee is not required if the applicant is 65 or older, or has a physical or mental impairment.

An identification card must be made to MVA specifications and be tamperproof to the extent possible. The card must contain an applicant's name, address, birth date, sex, description of the applicant, a color photograph of the applicant, an expiration date, the applicant's signature, and the signature and seal of the issuing agent. An identification card expires every five years and may be renewed on application and payment of the required fee. The identification card must be surrendered when the applicant receives a Maryland driver's license. The MVA may issue an identification card to an applicant whose privilege to drive has been refused, cancelled, suspended, or revoked, or to an applicant who has been issued a temporary license.

**Background:** According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) computer technology has been very helpful in locating missing children. Dissemination of a digital photograph can take only minutes. Before the computer age, dissemination of a missing child's photo could take weeks. A digital image also allows a forensic artist to age a photograph if a child has been missing for an extended period. An identification card, such as the one issued by the MVA, contains critical data that can help law enforcement authorities locate a missing child more quickly. A recent NCMEC survey found that about 25% of the parents could not provide a detailed description of their children. NCMEC also recommends the use of ID-type photos, because they are more useful than family snapshots.

**State Revenues:** TTF revenues would increase by \$25,000 in fiscal 2004 and 2005 to account for an estimated 10,000 applicants for the two-year-renewal ID card. This estimate is based on 1% of the eligible 1 million children under age 16 actually applying for the card during fiscal 2004 (as of January 1) and 2005. The number of new applicants would decline in future years. For fiscal 2006 and 2007, it is then likely that the increase in new applicants would be about 2,500 for each year. For fiscal 2008 and thereafter, new applicants would be about 1,000 annually. The MVA advises that it would charge a \$5 or \$10 fee for the two-year card, depending on cost recovery requirements. This estimate is based on the MVA charging \$5 for this two-year card. The MVA also advises that 19,600 children under 16 currently have a State ID card.

**State Expenditures:** The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) has determined that TTF expenditures could increase by \$16,409 in fiscal 2004, accounting for a January 1, 2004 start date. This would provide one-half of a contractual position, postage, and brochure production costs. Fiscal 2005 expenditures would increase by \$15,825, accounting for continuation of one-half of a contractual position to process additional ID cards, brochure production, and mailing costs. After fiscal 2005, out-year costs for this bill would start at \$3,105 and decline to \$1,597 to produce and mail brochures, renew and mail new ID cards. The processing of new applicants could be accomplished within existing resources.

The MVA has advised that an additional \$45,000 in fiscal 2004 would be needed for a one-time expenditure to make computer programming changes to accommodate the change to the two-year expiration date for the ID cards. DLS advises that this estimate could be significantly lowered or could be absorbed within existing resources if other legislation was passed requiring computer changes and economies of scale could be realized.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Transportation, Maryland Department of Planning, *ABC news.com*, *State Government News*, Department of Legislative Services

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