

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 300 (Senator Della)
Judicial Proceedings

Vehicle Laws - Standing or Parking Near Crosswalks - Baltimore City

This bill authorizes Baltimore City to regulate the distance from a crosswalk at an intersection within which a person may not stand or park a vehicle, and amends the city charter to grant that authority. The bill requires the city to post signs at appropriate visible locations at any crosswalk where the rule for standing or parking a vehicle varies from the general statewide rule of 20 feet. A person may not stand or park a vehicle within an area prohibited by those signs.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill does not materially affect State procedures or finances.

Local Effect: Baltimore City expenditures will increase minimally to place signs pursuant to the bill. **This bill may impose a mandate on a unit of local government.**

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: A person may not (1) stop, stand, or park a vehicle on a crosswalk; (2) stand or park a vehicle within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection; or (3) stand or park a vehicle at any place where standing is prohibited by an official sign.

A violation of the offense specified by the bill would be considered a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, carry a maximum fine of \$500. The District Court prepay penalty for standing or parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk is \$45.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar bills were introduced as SB 36 in the 2003 session and SB 277 in 2002. The Senate passed SB 36 and the Environmental Matters Committee gave it an unfavorable report. SB 277 received an unfavorable report in the Judicial Proceedings Committee. SB 36 and SB 277 would have authorized Baltimore City to post signs but did not require it to do so.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 18, 2004
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