

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2004 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 324 (Delegate Morhaim, *et al.*)  
 Environmental Matters

**Vehicle Laws - Parking for Vehicles Transporting Individuals with Disabilities**

This bill allows the director of a licensed long-term care facility or assisted living program to apply to the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) for up to two removable parking placards for individuals with disabilities. The MVA may not issue more than two removable parking placards for individuals with disabilities to any applicant. The parking placard may only be used by an agent or employee of a long-term care facility or assisted living program in the course of using a vehicle to transport a patient or resident who has a permanent disability.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** One-time Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) expenditure increase of \$7,100 in FY 2005 to cover printing costs for 4,476 parking placards for facilities covered by this bill. Additional potential increase in TTF expenditures in FY 2005 only for computer programming costs. No effect on revenues.

(in dollars)	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
SF Expenditure	7,100	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$7,100)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Current Law:** Individuals with these parking placards may park for unlimited periods of time in parking zones where the amount of parking time is restricted. These individuals also are not required to pay parking meters where parking meters do not meet the requirements of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

Such individuals parking at a space equipped with parking meters may only park there for twice the maximum time period allowed on the parking meter, up to four hours. If the parking meter permits parking for more than four hours, an individual can only park there for the time permitted on the parking meter. These individuals also are allowed to park in a designated zone for the handicapped established at any State-owned airport, subject to the posted time restriction.

**Background:** According to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's Office of Health Care Quality, there are 1,991 licensed assisted living programs and 247 licensed long-term care facilities in Maryland, for a total of 2,238 facilities.

**State Expenditures:** TTF special fund expenditures could increase by \$7,117 in fiscal 2005 to print 4,476 parking placards for individuals with disabilities (two for each of the 2,238 facilities) at a cost of \$1.59 for each placard. The MVA advises that it will cost \$50,000 in fiscal 2005 to make computer programming changes as a result of this bill. The Department of Legislative Services advises that if other legislation is passed requiring computer reprogramming changes, economies of scale could be realized. This would reduce the costs associated with this bill and other legislation affecting the MVA.

---

### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Aging, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 13, 2004  
lc/jr

---

Analysis by: Lisa A. Daigle

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510

