

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2004 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1014 (Delegate Glassman)
Environmental Matters

Vehicle Laws - Driver's License Renewal - Extension

This bill authorizes the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to extend an individual's privilege to drive if operating conditions prevent the MVA from processing the individual's license renewal application. The bill also requires the MVA to adopt regulations to implement this authority.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill would not significantly affect the MVA's operations or finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: State law does not authorize the MVA to extend the validity of a license due to operating conditions. Driver's licenses are issued every five years and expire on the birth date of the licensee. A driver's license is renewable within six months of the expiration date; the license renewal fee is \$30. The District Court prepay penalty for driving with an expired license is \$55. No points are assessed against the driver's license.

State Revenues: In August 2003, the MVA's computer system became infected with a computer virus that caused the system to stop working and forced the agency to close its offices during operating hours. Such closures are rare. Accordingly, any loss of

Transportation Trust Fund or general fund revenues resulting from extending a driver's privilege for 30 days would be infrequent and would not be significant. Presumably, this is the type of operating condition envisioned by the bill, which does not provide a definition. The MVA processed 680,577 license renewals in 2003.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 11, 2004
ncs/jr

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