

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2005 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 1119

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Judicial Proceedings

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Prince George's County - Parking of Commercial Vehicles in Residential Areas  
PG 406-05

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This bill prohibits specified “commercial vehicles” from parking in a residential zone in Prince George’s County. This prohibition does not apply if the parking is essential to the immediate use of a vehicle in conjunction with a commercial transaction for a business. This restriction does not apply within a municipality in Prince George’s County.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Minimal general fund revenue increase from the penalty provision applicable to this offense (\$500 fine). Enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None. Enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

**Small Business Effect:** Small businesses that own specified commercial vehicles could find themselves subject to parking fines. However, this effect is likely to be minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** A commercial vehicle is defined as a vehicle that (1) is used to transport property; (2) is owned by, or used in conjunction with, a business enterprise; and (3) can be registered as a Class E (truck) which weighs more than 7,000 pounds or has a manufacturer’s rated capacity greater than three-fourths of a ton, a class F (tractor), or class G (trailer) vehicle.

A violation is a misdemeanor with a \$500 fine for each offense. Each day of a violation constitutes a separate offense. In addition, if the vehicle in question is a combination tractor and trailer, a violator is subject to a separate fine for each vehicle.

**Current Law:** Prince George's County prohibits an individual from parking a commercial bus, trailer, or heavy commercial truck on any street or highway in the county outside the corporate limits of any municipality between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. during the week or at any time on Sundays or a holiday. This ban does not apply to vehicles that are in the course of a commercial purpose and do not park for more than two hours. Any commercial vehicle that has been parked in a residential zone for more than 24 hours must be towed by the county police department or revenue authority. The penalty for this violation is \$150.

State law prohibits a person from stopping, standing, or parking a vehicle in front of a public driveway; on a sidewalk, bridge, or ramp to a highway; in an intersection, crosswalk, or highway tunnel; between safety zones; in a spot marked for the use of an individual with a disability, unless for the use of an individual with a disability; or where prohibited by official sign. A person cannot stand or park a vehicle within 15 feet of a fire hydrant; within 20 feet of a crosswalk, where standing is prohibited by official sign; on the roadway side of any other vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a highway; or on a curve or hill where passing is not permitted. A person cannot park a vehicle within 50 feet of the nearest rail in a railroad grade crossing.

**Local Fiscal Effect:** As the bill does not preclude Prince George's County from assessing its own parking fines, revenues and expenditures would not be affected. Enforcement would be handled with existing resources.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Prince George's County, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 17, 2005  
mp/hlb Revised - House Third Reader - April 6, 2005

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