

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 832

(Delegate Bozman, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Vehicle Laws - Stopping, Standing, or Parking After Turning - Prohibition

This bill prohibits a person from stopping, standing, or parking a vehicle on a highway within 100 feet of an intersection after making a turn from another highway.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential general fund revenue increase due to the penalty provision applicable to this offense under the Maryland Vehicle Law (maximum \$500 fine for a misdemeanor offense). No effect on expenditures as enforcement could be handled with existing resources.

Local Effect: None. Enforcement of these provisions could be handled with existing resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The provisions that prohibit stopping, standing, or parking in specified places apply except as necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or traffic control device.

A person may not stop, park, or leave standing any vehicle on the roadway if it is practical for the person to move the vehicle off the roadway. A person may not leave a vehicle standing if it blocks the road so that other vehicles cannot pass. A person may not stop a vehicle on a roadway, unless it can be clearly seen from 200 feet in each direction. These prohibitions apply outside of business and residential districts.

A person may not stop, stand, or park a vehicle in certain places including:

- on a sidewalk;
- in a crosswalk;
- between a safety zone and adjacent curb or within 30 feet of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone;
- alongside or opposite any highway excavation or obstruction if it obstructs traffic;
- in a highway tunnel;
- where stopping is prohibited by an official sign;
- on any entrance or exit ramp of any highway; or
- in a space or zone restricted for the use of individuals with disabilities, unless for the use of persons with disabilities.

A violation of any stopping, standing, or parking prohibition is a misdemeanor offense subject to a maximum fine of \$500. If the fine is prepaid rather than contested, the District Court penalty for these offenses ranges from \$40 to \$60.

State Expenditures: The number of contested motor vehicle cases handled by the District Court could increase, requiring an increase in judicial and clerical time necessary to process cases. However, the Department of Legislative Services advises that enforcement of these provisions could be handled with existing resources.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 24, 2006
nas/ljm

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