

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1512 (Delegate Cluster)
Appropriations

Department of State Police - Police Training Commission - Information About
Law Enforcement Related Motor Vehicle Accidents

This bill requires the Department of State Police to collect, analyze, and disseminate specified information about the occurrence of law enforcement related motor vehicle accidents in the State, including the primary cause, the secondary causes, and other factors such as weather and road conditions. DSP is required to consult with the Police Training Commission to determine the information to be collected. The information collected by DSP must be provided in an annual report to the commission, any law enforcement agency requesting the information, and the General Assembly.

The Police Training Commission is required to develop and require, for entrance-level police training, enhanced driver training programs using the information obtained under these provisions.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: While it is uncertain whether the information collected under the bill would necessitate any changes to the current emergency vehicle operations training objectives of PTC, the bill's requirements could be handled with the existing budgeted resources of PTC and DSP.

Local Effect: New entrance-level, enhanced driver training requirements developed by PTC for local academies could minimally increase training costs. However, it is likely that any such new requirements could be accommodated within existing training timeframes and existing budgeted resources.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: The Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions are the primary providers of correctional entrance level, and mandated police and correctional administrator, supervisor, and instructor training in Maryland. They are a part of the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

Background: PTC already mandates emergency vehicle safety and accident prevention training to police officers in entrance-level training and local academies provide a minimum of 40 hours training in these areas. PTC routinely updates its driver training.

DSP's Central Records Division maintains the Maryland Accident Reports System (MAARS). All police agencies in the State submit copies of all accident reports to MAARS. The report data is manually entered into the MAARS database by the division.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of State Police, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, Department of Legislative Services

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Analysis by: Guy G. Cherry

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