

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2006 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 888

(Delegate Impallaria, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Judicial Proceedings

---

Vehicle Laws - Baltimore County Alleys - Maximum Speed Limit

---

This bill establishes a speed limit of 15 miles per hour in alleys in Baltimore County.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues due to the bill's penalty provision. No effect on expenditures.

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

**Small Business Effect:** None.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** An "alley" is a street that provides access to the rear or side of a lot or building in an urban area and is not designed for through traffic. State law does not establish a maximum speed limit for alleys.

Except as otherwise provided, the maximum speed limits are:

- 30 miles an hour on all highways in a business district and undivided highways in a residential district;
- 35 miles an hour on divided highways in a residential district;
- 50 miles an hour on undivided highways in other locations; and
- 55 miles an hour on divided highways in other locations.

Except as otherwise provided, a posted maximum speed limit in effect on December 31, 1974 is the maximum lawful speed even if it differs from a speed limit specified in State law. A posted maximum speed limit specified either in State law or in effect as of December 31, 1974 may be altered, except as the limit pertains to the maximum allowed for highways.

Exceeding the maximum speed limit is a misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum fine of \$500. The following are the prepayment fines assessed by the District Court (including court costs) and the points assessed by the Motor Vehicle Administration for excessive speeding:

<u>Miles Per Hour</u>	<u>Fine and Points</u>
1 – 9	\$70/1
10 – 19	\$82/2
20 – 29	\$145/2
30 – 39	\$280/5
40 and over	\$520/5*

\*Note: The fine for exceeding the speed limit by 40 mph and over is the maximum of \$500, plus court costs.

---

### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None. However, a bill with similar provisions and statewide application, HB 1180 of 2005, was given an unfavorable report in the House Environmental Matters Committee.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Baltimore County, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 24, 2006  
ncs/hlb Revised - Enrolled Bill - April 20, 2006

---

Analysis by: Karen D. Morgan

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

