

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2007 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 877

(Delegate Impallaria, *et al.*)

Judiciary

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**Vehicle Laws - Issuance of Driver's Licenses - Driving Records**

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This bill requires an individual who was previously licensed to drive in another jurisdiction (including a foreign country) to provide the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) a copy of the individual's driving record. The MVA must exempt an applicant from this requirement if the applicant provides documentation showing that the applicant made a reasonable attempt to obtain the driving record and the MVA is satisfied that the driving record cannot be obtained through reasonable efforts.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Additional processing time associated with examination and scanning of the driving record could be handled with existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** If an individual previously licensed to drive in another jurisdiction applies for a license, the MVA may request a copy of the individual's driving record from the other jurisdiction. The MVA may waive any driver's license examination if the driver holds a valid license from another state, a U.S. territory or possession, the District of Columbia or Puerto Rico, or a province or territory of Canada.

**Background:** The MVA advises that, in February 2007, there were 1,054 out-of-country applications for driver's licenses and identification cards processed, as opposed to 3,317 applications. In addition, the MVA advises that, in fiscal 2006, there were 14,751 driver's licenses issued to individuals coming to Maryland from out of state.

In fiscal 2006, out of 633,743 driver's licenses and identification cards issued, 477,967 were driver's licenses, or approximately 75%.

**State Expenditures:** The bill does not generate any additional transactions, as all out-of-country and out-of-state applicants for a driver's license must visit the MVA in person. However, wait times could increase at branch offices due to increased processing time for these transactions.

The MVA advises that requiring a copy of a driving record from another jurisdiction would potentially add 3 minutes, 45 seconds to each such transaction. Assuming that out-of-state applications remain constant at fiscal 2006 levels, out-of-country applications remain constant at February 2007 levels, and the same ratio for overall driver's licenses to identification card issuance applies to out-of-country transactions, annual transactions affected by this bill would total 24,290. In fiscal 2006, the MVA processed 9.1 million walk-in transactions; thus, this bill would affect less than 0.3% of walk-in transactions.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Office of Administrative Hearings, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 12, 2007  
mll/ljm

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