

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2009 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 939 (Senator Mooney)  
Judicial Proceedings

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**Vehicle Laws - Individuals with Disabilities - Width of Parking Spaces**

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This bill prohibits parking spaces designated for use by individuals with disabilities from being narrower than other parking spaces in the parking lot. The bill affects parking lots to which the provisions of the Maryland Accessibility Code apply, which are constructed or altered on or after October 1, 2009.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect local operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal operational impact on a small business constructing or altering a parking lot on or after October 1, 2009.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Each parking lot that is constructed or altered after October 1, 1996, must conform to the requirements of the Maryland Accessibility Code. Any restriping or repaving of a parking lot is considered an alteration. By October 1, 2010, all parking lots in the State must conform to these requirements.

The Maryland Accessibility Code references the Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines, which require a certain number of compliant parking spaces to be at least eight feet wide.

**Additional Comments:** Current law requires all parking lots in the State to conform to the provisions of the Maryland Accessibility Code by October 1, 2010, regardless of whether the parking lot is being altered. However, this bill does not change the Maryland Accessibility Code and therefore only applies to parking lots that are being altered or constructed on or after October 1, 2009.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Montgomery County, Department of Disabilities, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 20, 2009  
mcp/ljm

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