

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 624

(Delegate Rosenberg, *et al.*)

Economic Matters

Judicial Proceedings

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Baltimore City - Used Car Dealers - Sunday Operations

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This bill allows used car dealers in Baltimore City to conduct business on Sunday, instead of Saturday, if the dealer notifies the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration in advance.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2011.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** None. Allowing used car dealerships to conduct business on Sunday instead of Saturday does not directly affect local finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Potential meaningful. The option to operate on Sunday instead of Saturday may increase the operational efficiencies of used car dealers in Baltimore City.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Except in Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties, a new or used automobile dealer may not sell, barter, deliver, give away, show, or offer for sale a motor vehicle or certificate of title for a motor vehicle on a Sunday. In Anne Arundel County, a dealer may sell or show new or used trailers, mobile homes, or motorcycles but not other motor vehicles. Motorcycle sales are also allowed on Sundays in Worcester County.

Car dealers who violate this law are guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, subject to a fine of up to \$10,000.

**Background:** Auto dealers are generally open six days a week for 12 or more hours per day. The Maryland Automobile Dealers Association advises that most dealers in the State believe that being open on Sundays does not result in an increase in sales. However, dealers may feel the need to be open on Sundays if the dealer operates in an area where competition exists with dealerships that operate on Sundays. Dealers in Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties compete with dealers in Virginia (where Sunday sales are permitted) and are exempted from the blue laws.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** SB 125 (Senator Gladden) - Judicial Proceedings.

**Information Source(s):** Baltimore City, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 17, 2011  
mc/mcr Revised - House Third Reader - March 18, 2011

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