

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1104

(Prince George's County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Judicial Proceedings

**Prince George's County - Permit Program for Roadside Solicitation of Money or
Donations - Sunset Extension
PG 402-11**

This bill extends the termination date, from September 30, 2011, to September 30, 2013, for a Prince George's County permit program allowing a person to stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to solicit money or donations from the occupant of a vehicle, as originally authorized by Chapter 698 of 2009.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2011.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Prince George's County revenues and expenditures may increase by a minimal amount during the effective period of the permit program.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Except for the occupant of a disabled vehicle who seeks the aid of another vehicle, a person may not stand in a roadway to solicit a ride, employment, or business from an occupant of any vehicle. Further, a person is prohibited from standing on or near a highway to solicit any other person to watch or guard any vehicle while it is parked or about to be parked on the highway.

In Anne Arundel County, a person may not stand in a highway to solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle or advertise any message. In

Howard County, a person may not stand in a State highway or the highway right-of-way to solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle. In Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Harford, and Washington counties, a person may not stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to solicit money or donations of any kind from the occupant of a vehicle. This ban also applies to children under age 18 in Montgomery County.

The Cecil County Commissioners or a municipality in Cecil County are authorized to adopt a permit program for roadside solicitation. A person is prohibited in Cecil County from standing in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to solicit donations from occupants of motor vehicles (without a valid permit), and from causing, encouraging, allowing, or petitioning others to do so. An individual or a representative of a qualified organization who is at least 18 years old may obtain a permit from the county commissioners or a municipality in the county, upon submitting proof of a plan to safely solicit donations. A permit is issued for one calendar day, and only one permit per individual or organization can be issued in a calendar year.

The Baltimore and Prince George's county councils are authorized to enact a permit program to allow a person to stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to solicit money or donations from the occupant of a vehicle. The authorization to enact a permit program in Prince George's County terminates September 30, 2011.

Background: Prince George's County has not yet instituted a permit program allowing a person to stand in a roadway, median divider, or intersection to solicit money or donations from the occupant of a vehicle.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Prince George's County, Secretary of State, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 11, 2011
ncs/hlb

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