

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2011 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1166 (Delegate Conway, *et al.*)
Environmental Matters

Motor Vehicle Registration - Exception for Golf Carts - City of Crisfield

This bill authorizes a person to operate a golf cart equipped with approved lighting in the City of Crisfield between dawn and dusk on a highway in which the maximum posted speed limit does not exceed 35 miles per hour. The golf cart must be kept as far to the right of the roadway as feasible. A golf cart operating in the City of Crisfield under the bill's authorization is exempt from the general requirement that each motor vehicle driven on a highway in the State be registered.

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.

Analysis

Current Law: Each motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer driven on a highway must be registered. Certain motor vehicles are exempt from this requirement, including certain snowmobiles in Garrett County and certain golf carts in Allegany County and on Smith Island. A motor vehicle is defined as a vehicle that, unless otherwise specifically exempted, is self-propelled or propelled by electric power obtained from overhead electrical wires and not operated on rails. Certain vehicles, such as low-speed vehicles, bicycles, and motor scooters are restricted to certain highways based on the maximum posted speed limit, and may be subject to different rules of the road than passenger cars and trucks. The Motor Vehicle Administration does not currently have a registration class specific to golf carts.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Somerset County, Department of State Police, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 11, 2011
mc/ljm

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