

SB 908

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 908 (Senator Dyson)
Judicial Proceedings

Motor Vehicles - Farm Truck Registration - Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight

This bill increases, from 65,000 pounds to 70,000 pounds, the maximum gross vehicle weight for purposes of determining the vehicle registration fee for a Class E farm truck.

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: A “farm truck” is defined as a Class E vehicle that has a shipping weight of its chassis and battery, as certified by the manufacturer, of more than three-fourths of a ton.

The Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) must issue a Class E registration to an applicant that certifies that he or she is a farmer and that the vehicle is a farm truck, and that specifies the proposed use of the farm truck. The annual registration fee is \$5.00 per 1,000 pounds for farm trucks with a maximum gross vehicle weight of between 10,000 and 40,000 pounds and \$5.25 per 1,000 pounds for farm trucks between 40,001 and 65,000 pounds. The Maryland Vehicle Law does not specify a fee for farm trucks with a maximum gross vehicle weight of more than 65,000 pounds.

A “farm truck tractor” is a Class F farm vehicle, which includes a maximum gross vehicle weight of 80,000 pounds, and carries a vehicle registration fee of \$5.25 per 1,000 pounds.

Background: MVA advises that there are currently 709 farm trucks registered with a maximum gross vehicle weight of over 55,000 pounds. MVA does not track the number of farm trucks in with a maximum gross vehicle weight of over 65,000 pounds, but advises that there are very few such vehicles.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 16, 2012
ncs/ljm

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