

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2012 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

Senate Bill 908 (Senator Dyson)  
Judicial Proceedings

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**Motor Vehicles - Farm Truck Registration - Maximum Gross Vehicle Weight**

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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.

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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.

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**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.

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### **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  
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