

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2017 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader

House Bill 82

(Delegate Carr)(Chair, Joint Committee on Federal
Relations)

Environment and Transportation

Finance

Woodrow Wilson Bridge and Tunnel Compact - Repeal

This bill repeals the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and Tunnel Compact.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The compact is obsolete; it never became active because alternative financing for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge was obtained.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: The Woodrow Wilson Bridge spans the Potomac River between Alexandria, Virginia, and Prince George's County, Maryland.

The Woodrow Wilson Bridge and Tunnel Compact was established in 1995 between Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC, to create an independent authority to fund, build, maintain, and administer a new Woodrow Wilson Bridge among the three jurisdictions. The compact granted the authority numerous powers, including the issuance of bonds, acquisition of property, and establishment of tolls for the bridge. The authority was never active because federal funding was used to construct the replacement bridge. Construction of the bridge primarily took place between 2000 and 2009. The compact is obsolete because the replacement bridge has been completed, and the compact does not address any

other current transportation need. Virginia repealed its participation in the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and Tunnel Compact in 2015.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 125 (Senator Feldman) - Finance.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 25, 2017
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