

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 4

(Delegate Jameson)

Environment and Transportation

Budget and Taxation

Toll Bridges – Renaming Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge – Harry W. Nice/Thomas “Mac” Middleton Bridge

This bill requires the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) to rename the Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge as the Harry W. Nice/Thomas “Mac” Middleton Bridge.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Nonbudgeted expenditures increase by approximately \$10,000 in FY 2019 only to replace the existing signs for the bridge. Revenues are not affected.

| (in dollars) | FY 2019 | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 | FY 2023 |
|--------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Revenues | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| NonBud Exp. | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net Effect | (\$10,000) | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Note: () = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Upon receiving direction, either from the Secretary of Transportation or as the result of enacted legislation, the State Highway Administration or MDTA is required to dedicate a facility.

Although it is not explicitly stated in statute, MDTA handles naming a facility differently than dedicating a facility. When requested to *dedicate* a facility, the MDTA board

considers the dedication and makes the final decision. When requested to *name* a facility, the MDTA board reviews the request and then forwards it to the Board of Public Works for final approval.

Background: Since 1971, MDTA has been responsible for constructing, managing, operating, and improving the State's toll facilities and for financing new revenue-producing transportation projects. MDTA's transportation facilities projects include the Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge. The Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge carries U.S. 301 over the Potomac River between Maryland and Virginia. It is the second oldest of MDTA's facilities. The opening of the bridge on December 15, 1940, gave MDTA customers a new route to the south. Before the bridge was built, travelers heading from Eastern and Southern Maryland to Richmond and Norfolk, and other points further south, had to travel through Washington, DC, along U.S. 1.

Senator Thomas "Mac" Middleton was elected to the Maryland Senate in 1994 and has served as the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee since 2003. He represents District 28, which is located in Charles County and contains the Maryland side of the Harry W. Nice Memorial Bridge.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 15, 2018
mm/lgc
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Analysis by: Richard L. Duncan

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510