

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

Senate Bill 60

(Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee)(By Request -  
Departmental - Transportation)

Judicial Proceedings

Environment and Transportation

---

Vehicle Laws - Driver's Licenses - Expiration and Renewal

---

This departmental bill repeals a requirement that a corrected driver's license issued to a driver age 21 years or older expire on the licensee's birth date in the fifth year following issuance. In addition, the bill allows the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to waive a vision test for an individual age 21 years or older (but younger than age 40) if the applicant has passed an authorized vision test within the previous nine, rather than six, years.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None. The bill codifies existing practice.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** The Maryland Department of Transportation has determined that this bill has minimal or no impact on small business (attached). The Department of Legislative Services concurs with this assessment.

---

Analysis

**Current Law/Background:**

*Corrected Licenses*

If a noncommercial driver's license holder desires a corrected driver's license, the licensee must (1) apply for a corrected license on the appropriate form; (2) surrender the original license; and (3) pay the required fee.

### *Vision Test Requirement for Driver's License Renewal*

Generally, MVA must require every individual applying for a driver's license renewal to pass a vision test. Nevertheless, an individual who is age 21 or older – but younger than age 40 – may apply for a renewal as specified *without* taking a vision test if the applicant has passed an authorized vision test within the previous six years.

### *Recent Changes to Validity Periods for Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards*

Chapter 175 of 2012 increased the maximum validity period, from five years to eight years, for all identification cards and for drivers' licenses held by individuals age 21 or older.

While § 16-114.1(d)(1) of the Transportation Article specifies that a corrected license be assigned a new expiration date, MVA notes that it is current practice for the corrected license to retain the same expiration date as the original license. Thus, the bill codifies existing practice.

Likewise, MVA advises that the bill extends the vision test waiver in § 16-115(i)(3) of the Transportation Article from six years to nine years because it is current practice to allow licensees age 21 or older (but younger than age 40) to renew their licenses every other cycle without being required to submit new vision test results.

---

## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 21, 2019  
mm/ljm Third Reader - February 1, 2019

---

Analysis by: Eric F. Pierce

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

## ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

TITLE OF BILL: Motor Vehicle Administration – Driver’s Licenses – Durations

BILL NUMBER: SB 60

PREPARED BY: Maryland Department of Transportation / Motor Vehicle  
Administration

(Dept./Agency)

### PART A. ECONOMIC IMPACT RATING

This agency estimates that the proposed bill:

WILL HAVE MINIMAL OR NO ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL  
BUSINESS

OR

WILL HAVE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON MARYLAND SMALL  
BUSINESSES

### PART B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS