

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2023 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 249

(Senator Kramer)

Judicial Proceedings

Environment and Transportation

Motor Vehicle Administration - Driver Education Program - Cannabis or
Alcohol

This bill requires the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to include in the standardized driver education program curriculum information on the laws relating to (and the risks of) driving while under the influence of cannabis or alcohol.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State finances or operations as MVA advises that the existing curriculum for driver's education courses addresses both cannabis and alcohol use and their effects on a driver.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: MVA is required to, in consultation with the Maryland State Department of Education, adopt and enforce regulations to implement a standardized driver education program conducted by driver education schools. The regulations must include curriculum, equipment, and facility standards for classroom, laboratory, and on-road instruction phases, as well as minimum student performance standards for an approved driver education program consisting of at least 30 hours of classroom instruction and at least 6 hours of highway driving instruction. Regulations must also include standards for the certification of schools and instructors; a system to evaluate the effectiveness of the driver education program; standards governing the required offering of the driver education program (based

on the capacity, enrollment, staff, and facilities of the schools); and standards for the eligibility of individuals to enroll in the program.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 14, 2023
rh/lgc Third Reader - March 22, 2023
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