

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 842 (Senators Hershey and Ready)
Judicial Proceedings

Vehicle Laws - Digital Registration Plates - Prohibited Acts

This bill prohibits the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) from issuing to the owner of a vehicle a “digital registration plate” that transmits to any unit of State or local government (1) the location of the vehicle or (2) the vehicle miles traveled for the vehicle. A “digital registration plate” is defined as a vehicle registration plate that works directly with the vehicle’s computer system and emits a wireless signal to communicate with outside entities for tracking the vehicle and providing digital monitoring services.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, when MVA registers a vehicle, MVA must issue to the owner either one or two registration plates, depending on the class of vehicle. However, as a temporary registration, MVA may issue only one temporary registration plate.

Each registration plate must display (1) the registration number assigned to the vehicle for which it is issued and (2) the name of this State (which may be abbreviated). The registration number may consist of letters, numerals, or both.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 26, 2020
af/ljm

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