

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 445

(Senator West)

Judicial Proceedings

Environment and Transportation

Vehicle Equipment - Safety Glass - Replacement Standards

This bill requires the Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) to adopt regulations establishing standards and requirements for aftermarket safety glass replacement that meet or exceed certain standards. Specifically, the regulations adopted by MVA must (1) require that the products and services used meet or exceed original equipment manufacturer specifications; (2) require the use of motor vehicle safety glass that meets certain specifications published by the American National Standards Institute, in accordance with relevant federal regulations and standards; and (3) meet or exceed the standards and requirements of the American National Standards Institute/Auto Glass Safety Council/Automotive Glass Replacement Safety Standard.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State finances or operations. MVA can adopt the required regulations with existing budgeted resources.

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

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The bill defines “aftermarket safety glass replacement” as motor vehicle safety glass replacement services that occur after the original installation by a vehicle manufacturer.

Current Law: “Safety glass” means (1) any glass product that is so made (or treated) as substantially to prevent the glass from shattering and flying when struck or broken or (2) any similar or other product MVA approves.

The owner of any motor vehicle may not have broken glass in the windshield of the vehicle replaced with any glass other than safety glass. Similarly, the owner may not have safety glass – broken or otherwise – in doors, windows, or wings of the motor vehicle replaced with any glass other than safety glass. In addition, a person may only install safety glass on those sections of the vehicle.

MVA must compile, maintain, and publish a list (by name) of the types of glass approved by it as conforming to these specifications and requirements. MVA may not register any motor vehicle that is subject to these provisions unless it is equipped with an approved type of safety glass and must suspend the registration of any motor vehicle that is not so equipped until the vehicle conforms, as specified.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: HB 519 (Delegate Barve) - Environment and Transportation.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 3, 2021
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