

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2015 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 288 (Delegate Lafferty)  
Environment and Transportation

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Vehicle Laws - Regulation of Parking - Jurisdiction

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This bill clarifies that the authority of a State agency or political subdivision to adopt regulations or ordinances to regulate the parking of vehicles applies only to highways over which the agency or subdivision has jurisdiction.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect local operations or finances, as it merely clarifies current law. To the extent that the bill's clarification results in fewer parking citations being issued by jurisdictions that are currently issuing unauthorized citations, local parking fine revenues may decrease.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** An authorized State agency and any political subdivision may adopt ordinances or regulations that (1) regulate the parking of vehicles; (2) provide for the impounding of vehicles parked in violation of the ordinances or regulations; (3) regulate the towing of vehicles from publicly owned and privately owned parking lots; and (4) provide for the issuance of a citation by an officer for a violation of an ordinance or regulation. The Maryland Vehicle Law does not prevent a local authority, in the reasonable exercise of its police power, from exercising specified powers as to *local* highways under its jurisdiction, including regulating or prohibiting the stopping, standing, or parking of vehicles, or regulating traffic with traffic control devices.

Local governments and other bodies authorized to regulate traffic may also place or maintain traffic control devices on a State highway with the permission of the State Highway Administration.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Carroll, Harford, Montgomery, Queen Anne's, and St. Mary's counties; the cities of Bowie and Takoma Park; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 9, 2015  
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