

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2010 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

Senate Bill 251

(Senator Astle)

Judicial Proceedings

Economic Matters

Anne Arundel County - Motorcycle Dealers - Sunday Operations

This bill allows motorcycle dealers in Anne Arundel County to conduct business on Sundays.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2010.

Fiscal Summary

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

Local Effect: None. Allowing motorcycle dealerships to conduct business on Sundays does not directly affect local finances.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful for motorcycle dealers in Anne Arundel County.

Analysis

Current Law: Except in Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, and Wicomico counties, a new or used automobile dealer may not sell, barter, deliver, give away, show, or offer for sale a motor vehicle or certificate of title for a motor vehicle on a Sunday. In Anne Arundel County, a dealer may sell or show trailers or mobile homes but not other motor vehicles. Chapter 425 of 2009 authorizes motorcycle dealers in Worcester County to conduct business on Sundays.

A dealer who violates this law is guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, is subject to a fine of up to \$10,000.

Background: Auto dealers are generally open six days a week for 12 or more hours per day. The Maryland Automobile Dealers Association advises that most dealers in the State believe that being open on Sundays does not result in an increase in sales. However, dealers may feel the need to be open on Sundays if the dealer operates in an area where competition exists with dealerships that operate on Sundays. Dealers in Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties compete with dealers in Virginia (where Sunday sales are permitted) and are exempted from the blue laws.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 393 (Delegate Love, *et al.*) – Economic Matters.

Information Source(s): Maryland Automobile Dealers Association, Anne Arundel County, Maryland Department of Transportation, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 29, 2010
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