



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 221

February Session, 2004

Substitute House Bill No. 5448

House of Representatives, March 24, 2004

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through REP. RYAN, K. of the 139th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING STATE POLICE CRUISERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2004*) Each car purchased for
- 2 use primarily as a patrol car by a state police officer on or after January
- 3 1, 2005, shall be equipped with a fire suppression system.

This act shall take effect as follows:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2004</i>
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LAB *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 05 \$	FY 06 \$
Department of Administrative Services; Public Safety, Dept.	GF - Cost	500,000	500,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill requires all state police patrol cars purchased on or after January 1, 2005 to be equipped with a fire suppression system.

The Ford Motor Company’s Crown Victoria Police Interceptor is currently used as the state police patrol car. The cost to equip each Crown Victoria with a fire suppression system is about \$2,000 per vehicle.

It is anticipated that DAS will purchase 250 Crown Victoria’s in 2005. Last year, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) purchased 236 Crown Victoria’s for approximately \$4.6 million (an average vehicle cost of \$19,534). The purchase of 250 Crown Victoria’s equipped with fire suppression systems will cost the state approximately \$5.3 million (an estimated average vehicle cost of \$21,534). This represents an increase in the purchase price of \$500,000. It is anticipated that 250 Crown Victoria’s will also be purchased in both 2006 and 2007.

DAS purchases the Crown Victoria’s and then bills the Department of Public Safety (DPS) monthly over a three year term for the vehicles.

Depending upon the availability of funds, DPS replaces its patrol cars when they reach 80,000 - 90,000 miles. Generally, this results in

about 200 - 250 cars per year or 20% of the department's patrol car fleet. Passage of the bill would result in significant cost to DPS since it is expected that the initial purchase price due to the fire suppression system requirement would be reflected in the monthly lease payments.

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5448

AN ACT CONCERNING STATE POLICE CRUISERS

SUMMARY:

This bill requires all state police patrol cars purchased on or after January 1, 2005 to be equipped with a fire suppression system. Neither the bill nor the law defines a fire suppression system.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2004

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 12 Nay 2