



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 331

January Session, 2015

Senate Bill No. 260

Senate, March 31, 2015

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. LARSON of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LENGTH OF THE REPORTS OF MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 14-108a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2015*):

4 (a) (1) The Commissioner of Transportation shall prescribe for the
5 Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency Services
6 and Public Protection and for each police department and officer and
7 other suitable agencies or individuals a uniform investigation of
8 accident report, in such form as the commissioner shall prescribe,
9 which form shall be followed in filing all such reports. Such report
10 shall not exceed two pages in length, unless the police officer, agency
11 or individual investigating the accident determines additional pages
12 are necessary.

13 (2) In each motor vehicle accident in which any person is killed or

14 injured or in which damage to the property of any one individual,
 15 including the operator, in excess of one thousand dollars is sustained,
 16 the police officer, agency or individual who, in the regular course of
 17 duty, investigates such accident, either at the time of or at the scene of
 18 the accident or thereafter, by interviewing the participants or
 19 witnesses, shall, within five days after completing such investigation,
 20 complete and forward one copy of such report to the Commissioner of
 21 Transportation. Such report shall call for and contain all available
 22 detailed information to disclose the location and cause of the accident,
 23 the conditions then existing, the persons and vehicles involved and the
 24 names of the insurance companies issuing their automobile liability
 25 policies, as well as the enforcement action taken. The Commissioner of
 26 Transportation shall forward to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles
 27 one copy of each report of any accident involving a school bus. The
 28 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may inquire into or investigate any
 29 accident reported pursuant to this subsection and may request the
 30 assistance of the Division of State Police within the Department of
 31 Emergency Services and Public Protection for such purposes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	14-108a(a)

PS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Transportation, Dept.	TF - Transportation Federal Grants	See Below	See Below

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires accident reports issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT) to be a maximum of two pages in length which does not result in a fiscal impact to DOT. However, the current report which is over 10 pages in length contains information used by DOT for highway safety research and accident data for Federal grants. The elimination of this information on accident reports may result in a potential reduction in DOT's eligibility for Federal highway safety grant programs.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 260*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE LENGTH OF THE REPORTS OF MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill sets a two-page limit on the uniform motor vehicle accident report that the Department of Transportation (DOT) must prescribe for police, unless the police officer, agency, or individual investigating the accident determines additional pages are necessary (see BACKGROUND). By law, police must document on this form any accident in which someone is killed or injured or damage to the property of any one person exceeds \$1,000.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

BACKGROUND***Accident Investigation Report***

By law, this report must contain detailed information on the location and cause of the accident, conditions at the time of the accident, persons and vehicles involved, names of the insurance companies that issued the vehicle liability policies, and the enforcement action taken. Within five days of completing the investigation of the accident, the investigating officer must forward a copy of the report to the DOT commissioner.

In January, DOT replaced the two-page crash data form with a new form called the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC) PR-1 form consisting of approximately 12 pages, some of which apply to only certain types of accidents. According to DOT, MMUCC serves as a national standard for collecting and reporting highway safety crash data.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/12/2015)