

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sSB-982

AN ACT REVISING MOTOR VEHICLE STATUTES.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Loss	Minimal	Minimal
State Revenues	GF&TF - Potential Revenue Loss	See Below	See Below
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
State Revenues	GF&TF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue Loss	Less than 1,000	Less than 1,000
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Cost	Less than 20,000	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund; GF&TF=General Fund & Transportation Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Section 1 allows a 16- or 17-year-old to transport their sibling to or from school within the first six-month of licensure and results in a potential revenue loss to the extent that fines will no longer be collected. In FY 20, the current statute restricting passengers for 16- and 17-year-old drivers resulted in 135 fines totaling \$13,313.

Section 2 requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to allow motor home and recreational vehicle owners who use their vehicles as permanent residences to register using a post office box in the town in which they reside. This section does not result in a fiscal impact to DMV because it is within the department's current expertise

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to update the registration form as needed.

Section 3 prohibits DMV from suspending licenses for failing to pay fines resulting from a motor vehicle infraction and results in a potential revenue loss to the extent that a subset of violators no longer pays the requisite fines.

Section 4 removes the requirement that children with disabilities must be under age 18 for parents or guardians to receive accessible placards. This section results in a potential minimal revenue gain to DMV to the extent that more temporary placards are requested due to the expanded eligibility. In FY 20, collections from temporary placards were \$38,850. Under current law, and unchanged by the bill, there is no fee for a permanent placard.

Section 5 creates a new infraction for failing to yield the right-of-way to a bus traveling in the same direction when the bus appropriately signals to reenter the flow of traffic. To the extent that offenders are fined, this section results in potential minimal revenue.

Section 6 requires school buses, beginning with model year 2022, to be equipped with an extended stop arm and results in a potential minimal revenue gain from fines. There were no fines issued for violating the school bus equipment statute in either FY 20 or FY 19.

Section 9 lowers, from \$25 to \$15, the fee for replacing mutilated or illegible veteran plates. DMV systems do not track the number of mutilated veteran plates that are replaced each year. However, in FY 20 DMV replaced 11,414 mutilated plates of any kind, which represent approximately 0.4% of total active plates.¹ Assuming a similar percentage of mutilated plate replacements applies to the 17,770 active veteran plates, this section results in an estimated revenue loss of less than \$1,000 annually.

Section 11 requires DMV to offer driver's license testing in Vietnamese and Albanian and results in a one-time cost of less than

¹ As of April 1, 2021, according to data provided by DMV.

\$20,000 in FY 22 to procure translation services for the test. Periodic minimal costs may be incurred beyond FY 22 in order to translate updates to the test as required.

Section 14 requires DMV to report on compliance with the laws regarding the sale and repair of fire apparatus and does not result in a fiscal impact because this is within the department's current expertise.

Section 15 requires DMV to verify with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) that commercial driver's license applicants have undergone federally-required training. This results in no fiscal impact because the requisite verification will be provided by FMCSA at no cost to DMV.

Section 16 expands the authority for DMV and the Department of Administrative Services to share organ and tissue donor information to include instruction permit holders and has no fiscal impact.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, the number of violations, or as otherwise described.