

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1199 Driving Under the Influence/Ignition Interlock Devices
SPONSOR(S): Simmons
TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:** SB 2612

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) Transportation	16 Y, 0 N	Garner	Miller
2) Public Safety & Crime Prevention			
3)			
4)			
5)			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

HB 1199 deletes all current language relating to ignition interlock devices from ch. 316, F.S., (Uniform Traffic Control), and enacts new provisions relating to the devices in ch. 322, F.S., (Driver's Licensing). In addition, the bill changes the blood or breath-alcohol level threshold for enhanced penalties from .20 or higher to .16 or higher.

Key provisions of the bill:

- Authorize the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to contract with equipment and service providers to implement the new ignition interlock device law;
- Amend the conditions and terms requiring the installation of ignition interlock devices;
- Require use of an ignition interlock device to be a condition of probation for convicted persons who enter probation under an existing ignition interlock device requirement;
- Increase the severity of penalties associated with offenses having to do with circumvention of ignition interlock devices; and
- Authorize courts to require installation of ignition interlock devices upon conviction of non-DUI offenses.

The bill has an effective date of October 1, 2003.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

STORAGE NAME: h1199a.tr.doc
DATE: April 10, 2003

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. DOES THE BILL:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Reduce government? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Lower taxes? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Expand individual freedom? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Increase personal responsibility? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Empower families? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a “no” above, please explain:

HB 1199 requires the installation of an ignition interlock device upon a wider array of DUI-related convictions and increases the length of time the installation may be required. In addition, the bill authorizes a court to order the installation of an ignition interlock device for convictions of non-DUI-related offenses.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

A driving under the influence (DUI) conviction pursuant to s. 316.193(1), F.S., requires proof of the following elements:

That the person was driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle and either:

- The person’s breath or blood alcohol level at the time was .08% or greater or
- The person was under the influence of alcohol, a chemical substance or a controlled substance to the extent that their normal faculties were impaired.

First, second and certain third DUI convictions are punishable as provided in s. 316.193(2), F.S., by a jail sentence and a fine as indicated below. A third conviction within 10 years of the second, or a fourth or subsequent conviction for DUI is a third degree felony, punishable by up to five years in prison. The penalties, pursuant to s. 316.193(2), F.S., for DUI and for DUI when the blood alcohol level of the driver was over .20 or when the driver was accompanied in the vehicle by a person under the age of 18 are:

	Maximum Incarceration	Incarceration Over .20 BAL or w/minor	Fine	Fine Over .20 BAL or w/minor
1st Offense	6 months jail	9 months jail	\$250-\$500	\$500-\$1,000
2nd Offense	9 months jail	12 months jail	\$500-\$1,000	\$1,000-\$2,000
3rd Offense more than 10 years after prior offense	12 months jail	12 months jail	\$1,000-\$2,500	\$2,000-\$5,000
3rd Offense within 10 years or prior offense	5 years prison	5 years prison	\$1,000-\$5,000	\$1,000-\$5,000
4th Offense (3rd degree felony)	5 years prison	5 years prison	\$1,000-\$5,000	\$1,000-\$5,000

Further, there are mandatory jail sentences associated with certain repeat DUI offenses. For example, if a person is convicted of a second DUI that occurred within 5 years after the date of the prior conviction, he or she must serve a mandatory minimum of 10 days in jail. s. 316.193(6)(b), F.S. For a third or subsequent DUI conviction for an offense that occurs within 10 years after the date of a prior conviction, the person must serve at least 30 days in jail. s. 316.193(6)(c), F.S.

Section 316.193, F.S. also provides penalties for a person who operates a vehicle while under the influence and “who, by reason of such operation, causes”:

- damage to the property or person of another;
- serious bodily injury to another; or
- the death of another (DUI manslaughter)

Upon a second conviction for DUI, the judge must order the placement, for at least one year, of an ignition interlock device upon all vehicles individually or jointly leased or owned and routinely operated by the offender if the convicted person qualifies for a permanent or restricted license. Upon a third DUI conviction, the ignition interlock device must be installed for at least two years. The ignition interlock device must be of a type approved by the Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) and must be placed at the offender’s sole expense. The installation of such a device may not occur before July 1, 2003.

Further, the placement of an ignition interlock device for up to six months is required for a first DUI offense and for up to two years for a second DUI offense where the person had a blood alcohol level in excess of .20.

Ignition interlock devices must prevent a motor vehicle from starting if the operator's blood alcohol level is .05 percent or as otherwise specified by a court.

DHSMV is directed to adopt rules providing for the implementation of the use of ignition interlock devices.

An offender is required to periodically report to DHSMV in order to verify operation of the device.

Effect of Proposed Changes

HB 1199 deletes all current language relating to ignition interlock devices from Ch. 316 (Uniform Traffic Control) and removes the existing authority of DHSMV to adopt rules relating to ignition interlock devices. In addition, the bill changes the blood or breath-alcohol level threshold for enhanced penalties from .20 or higher to .16 or higher.

HB 1199 places new provisions relating to ignition interlock devices in Ch. 322 (driver's licenses). The new provisions:

- Authorize DHSMV to contract with any providers required to furnish the commodities and contractual services necessary for the implementation of the new ignition interlock device law.
- Require ignition interlock devices to prevent a motor vehicle from starting if the operator's breath alcohol level is higher than .025, or half of the current level of .05.
- Requires a warning label to be placed on each ignition interlock device that warns that tampering with, circumventing, or otherwise misusing the device is a violation of law. Current law also makes this requirement.
- Requires placement of the device on all motor vehicles operated by a person who is issued a driver's license after being convicted of DUI at his or her own expense. This provision is also contained in current law.

- Require placement of the device if the person has been convicted of:
 - a first offense of DUI – the court may order 6 months to 2 years;
 - a first offense of DUI while accompanied by a minor or with a blood or breath alcohol level twice the legal threshold – the court must order 6 months to 2 years;
 - a second offense of DUI – the court must order 1 to 2 years;
 - a third or subsequent offense of DUI – the court must order 2 years;
 - DUI manslaughter with no previous DUI convictions – the court must order 1 to 2 years.
 - If the convicted person has the driver's license revoked for violating an abstinence requirement of a licensed supervision program the device will be placed for 1 year of a 5-year revocation period, or 2 years of a 10-year revocation period if the person operates under a restricted license. The revocation period will begin anew upon the installation of the device.
- Requires the requirement of installation of an ignition interlock device to be recorded on the person's license and in DHSMV's records.
- Requires probation orders to contain conditions, where applicable, requiring placement of ignition interlock devices effective upon the convicted person obtaining a restricted license, and requires the person to notify his or her probation officer within 72 hours of imposition of the condition, subject to a first-degree misdemeanor.
- Requires proof to DHSMV of installation, monitoring by a licensed DUI program, and verification reporting of use of the device to DHSMV by the program.
- Punishes persons violating provisions relating to circumvention of ignition interlock device requirements by:
 - first-degree misdemeanor and a minimum incarceration of 10 days;
 - revocation of a driver's license for 1 year;
 - revocation for 5 years if violation occurs while the person is required to have a device installed.

The bill grants DHSMV new authority to adopt rules necessary to implement the new provisions placed within Ch. 322, F.S.

In addition, the bill authorizes a court to require installation of an ignition interlock device for conviction of any offense prohibited by the Uniform Traffic Control Law, or any Florida law. In such cases, the court is required to examine the "totality of the circumstances" in determining the length of time the device shall be installed and the need to provide for the public's safety.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 316.193, F.S., to delete provisions relating to ignition interlock devices and to change the blood or breath alcohol level threshold for enhanced penalties from .20 to .16.

Section 2. Repeals s. 316.1937, F.S., and s. 316.1938, F.S.

Section 3. Amends s. 316.655, F.S., requiring that discretionary driver's license revocations and suspensions by a court may not be for a period less than that required by chapter 322, F.S., and providing that a court has discretion to require the installation of an ignition interlock device for conviction of violating any offense prohibited by Florida law.

Section 4. Amends s. 316.656, F.S., prohibiting courts from accepting a plea to a lesser offense from a person charged with DUI who has been tested as having a blood or breath alcohol content level of .16 percent or more.

Section 5. Amends s. 322.271, F.S., to delete a cross-reference to repealed s. 316.1937, F.S.

Section 6. Creates s. 322.2715, F.S., establishing new provisions regarding ignition interlock devices, their certification, warning labels, and unlawful acts related to ignition interlock devices.

Section 7. Provides for severability of portions of the act held invalid.

Section 8. Amends s. 316.656, F.S., prohibiting courts from accepting a plea to a lesser offense from a person charged with DUI who has been tested as having a blood or breath alcohol content level of .16 percent or more.

Section 9. Provides and effective date of October 1, 2003.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

To the extent that the bill results in increased use of interlock devices, providers of commodities and contractual services necessary for implementation of the new interlock device law may realize an economic benefit.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because this bill does not appear to: require cities or counties to spend funds or take actions requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

HB 1199 authorizes DHSMV to adopt rules necessary to implement the new ignition interlock device provisions in ch. 322, F.S.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

Sections 4 and 8 of the bill provide identical language. This language appears to be duplicative.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES