

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 115 CS

Highway Safety

SPONSOR(S): Slosberg

TIED BILLS:

IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 644

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR
1) <u>Transportation Committee</u>	<u>12 Y, 0 N, w/CS</u>	<u>Thompson</u>	<u>Miller</u>
2) <u>Judiciary Committee</u>	<u></u>	<u>Hogge</u>	<u>Hogge</u>
3) <u>Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Committee</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
4) <u>State Infrastructure Council</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
5) <u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

HB 115 w/CS requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to develop a parental notification system to assist traffic law enforcement in notifying parents, guardians or responsible adults that have signed for parental consent of a person under 18 years of age, if the minor is issued a traffic citation. The bill also provides that forms required by the parental notification system may be made available to law enforcement agencies by electronic means. This bill requires the parent, guardian, or other responsible adult, who signs for parental consent on the minor's driver license application, to furnish an address with the application for the purpose of being notified in the event the minor is issued a traffic citation for a violation of a traffic law.

The bill will have a negative fiscal impact on DHSMV of an estimated \$248,000 in FY 2005-06, with an additional recurring negative fiscal impact of \$65,611 for FY 2006-07, and \$72,172 for 2007-08, resulting from mailing costs associated with the notification requirement.

The bill takes effect October 1, 2005.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. HOUSE PRINCIPLES ANALYSIS:

Provide Limited Government—The bill requires DHSMV to issue parental notification forms and requires law enforcement officers or agencies to notify parents when a child under the age of 18 years is stopped while driving.

Safeguard individual liberty—The bill requires law enforcement to notify parents or guardians of children under the age of 18 if issued a traffic citation. It also requires the person signing for parental consent for the minor to provide the DHSMV with an address for notification.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Currently, licensed drivers under 18 years of age who are stopped by traffic enforcement officers for traffic violations are issued a warning citation or a uniform traffic citation. The parent or guardian of the driver is not notified by the traffic enforcement agency that a citation has been issued. The person signing for parental consent for the minor to obtain a driver's license is not required to provide the DHSMV with an address for such notification.

This bill amends s. 316.650, F.S., to require the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to develop a notification system to be used by law enforcement officers to assist in notifying the parent, guardian or responsible adult who signed for parental consent of a person under 18 years of age, if the minor is issued a traffic citation. The bill requires the DHSMV to mail notification to the parent, guardian or responsible adult who has signed the driver license application informing them that the minor has been issued a traffic citation. The notification must include the time and date the motor vehicle was stopped, the reason the motor vehicle was stopped, the number of people in the motor vehicle, the name of the driver stopped, and the name of the officer who issued the citation.

This bill provides that any form required by the parental notification system may also be made available to a traffic enforcement agency by electronic means. This bill also amends s. 322.09, F.S., to require the parent, guardian, or other responsible adult, who signs for parental consent on the minor's driver license application, to furnish an address with the application for the purpose of being notified in the event the minor is issued a traffic citation for a violation of a traffic law.

There are approximately 364,000 licensed drivers in Florida between fifteen and seventeen years of age. This age group received 119,292 traffic citations in calendar year 2003.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends s. 316.650, F.S., to provide for a parental notification system to be developed by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

Section 2. Amends s. 322.09, F.S., to require the parent, guardian, or other responsible adult, who signs for parental consent on the minor's driver license application, to furnish contact information in the event the minor is issued a traffic citation for a violation of a traffic law.

Section 3. Provides an effective date of October 1, 2005.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

See Fiscal Comments below.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

According to DHSMV this bill would require 1,020 hours of contract programming at \$185 per hour to modify the Florida Driver License Information System. Total programming costs would be \$188,700 for fiscal year 2005-06. The estimated postage costs of mailing notification letters is \$59,646 for FY 2005-06; \$65,611 for FY 2006-07, and \$72,172 for 2007-08. The estimated postage cost is based on the 119,292 traffic citations issued to the targeted age group at a cost of \$.50 each. The difference in cost for subsequent years results from an assumed 10 percent annual increase in the number of traffic citations.

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:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

The bill does not impose any specific timeframes within which the required notifications must occur.

IV. AMENDMENTS/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE & COMBINED BILL CHANGES

On March 29, 2005, the Committee on Transportation adopted two amendments to HB 115. These amendments removed warnings from the notification requirements of HB 115. The bill was then reported favorably, as amended, with a committee substitute.