

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 04/15/2009

The Committee on Finance and Tax (Pruitt) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 150 - 168

and insert:

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Section 8. Section 322.2707, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

322.2707 Surcharge reduction program.-

(1) The department shall establish a surcharge reduction program by rule to extend the payment period for a surcharge or to waive or reduce a surcharge assessed under ss. 322.270112

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322.2709, the Florida's Driver Responsibility Law.

- (2) The program shall waive the surcharge resulting from the first noncriminal infraction committed by a person within the preceding 48-month period.
- (3) The program shall reduce the surcharge assessed as a result of points assessed under s. 322.27 for a person who completes a driver improvement program prescribed by the department. The department shall establish the amount of the reduction to create an incentive for drivers to enroll in a driver improvement program. The reduction shall be available to a driver once per 60-month period. The amount of the reduction may not exceed \$100. However, the reduction may not exceed \$75 for a driver who, within the preceding 3-year period, was assessed points for violations relating to a motor vehicle accident or violations identified by the department as most likely to cause accidents with injuries.
- (4) The program shall reduce or extend the payment period for surcharges exceeding \$400 annually which are imposed on persons who are indigent. In determining whether a person is indigent, the department shall use the standards for eligibility for the appointment of a public defender under s. 27.52. The maximum reduction may not exceed 75 percent of a surcharge. The maximum payment period may not be extended by more than one year. The rules shall require the department to consider the particular circumstances affecting a person upon whom a surcharge is imposed and to limit the extent to which reductions are available. The department may condition eligibility for a reduction on the completion of a driver improvement program. The department may charge a fee in an amount equal to the



department's costs to determine a person's indigent status.

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======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ==========

44 And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 37 - 41

and insert:

specified annual surcharges; creating s. 322.2707, F.S.; requiring the department to adopt a surcharge reduction program by rule; requiring the department to waive the surcharge for a noncriminal infraction committed by a person within a certain time period; requiring the department to reduce the amount of a surcharge for certain drivers who complete a driver improvement program; requiring the department to reduce or extend the payment period for surcharges assessed against indigent persons; creating s. 322.2709, F.S.; providing for