

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note



Fiscal Note On: **SB 354** SLS 24RS 370

Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**

Opp. Chamb. Action:

Proposed Amd.:

Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 17, 2024 1:27 PM	Author: OWEN, ROBERT
Dept./Agy.: Department of Transportation and Development	Analyst: Kimberly Fruge
Subject: Increased signage and penalties for driving in the left lane	

ROADS/HIGHWAYS

OR INCREASE SD EX See Note

Page 1 of 1

Provides for increased signage and penalties for driving in left lane on the state highways. (8/1/24)

Proposed law requires the Department of Transportation and Development to place "Slower traffic keep right - Fines Enforced" signs at equally spaced intervals on multilane highways in locations where there is a high incidence of traffic citations for driving in the left lane on a state highway.

Proposed law increases the penalty for driving in the left lane on a state highway from not more than \$100 to not more than \$200.

EXPENDITURES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	INCREASE	INCREASE	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Ded./Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW					
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will result in an increase in expenditures out of the Transportation Trust Fund - Regular to install signs on multilane highways. The Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) indicates that they have no way of determining which locations have a high incidence of traffic citations for driving in the left lane. If the department were to place signs on all existing multilane highways, they estimate it would take 968 signs at a cost of \$662,229. This cost would be to place 118 signs fifteen miles apart on the interstate and 1,932 signs five miles apart on non-interstate highways. Interstate signs cost \$1,143 per sign to fabricate and install, while non-interstate signs cost \$620.50. To the extent DOTD is able to determine areas that do not need signs, the costs will decrease accordingly. Proposed law requires signs to be placed by January 1, 2026.

An indirect increase in expenditures is attributable to the long-term maintenance and possible replacement costs for damaged or destroyed signs. The maintenance cost over time should be negligible, but to the extent additional signage is added to the department's inventory each year, the department's efforts to maintain them increase incrementally. Material and labor costs for any new signage are estimated to recur every 10 years in perpetuity, as roadway signs must be replaced due to age or damage.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Proposed law may result in an increase in revenues by an indeterminable amount as a result of the increase in fines for driving in the left lane on a state highway. Proposed law increases the maximum fine for driving in the left lane from \$100 to \$200. The number of drivers who may be fined under proposed law is unknown, therefore revenue derived from this source is indeterminable. However, all fines would accrue to local governing entities.

Senate
 13.5.1 >= \$100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}
 13.5.2 >= \$500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}

House
 6.8(F)(1) >= \$100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}
 6.8(G) >= \$500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer