



**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note**

Fiscal Note On: **HB 849** HLS 26RS 618
 Bill Text Version: **ORIGINAL**
 Opp. Chamb. Action:
 Proposed Amd.:
 Sub. Bill For.:

Date: March 13, 2026 2:49 PM	Author: DICKERSON
Dept./Agy.: Department of Transportation and Development	
Subject: Interstate Highway Signage Maintenance and Reporting Program	Analyst: Kimberly Fruge

HIGHWAYS OR INCREASE SD EX See Note Page 1 of 1
 Provides with respect to highway sign maintenance

Proposed law provides for the Interstate Highway Signage Maintenance and Reporting Program; provides that the Department of Transportation and Development proactively maintain and repair interstate highway signage; requires the department implement a regular schedule for cleaning highway signs and apply a protective coating; provides for the creation of a method for reporting real-time documentation of broken, bent, or missing signs; provides for a system to submit before and after photos of signs for which maintenance was performed to ensure accountability; provides for various other responsibilities of the department.

EXPENDITURES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	INCREASE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total						
REVENUES	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	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	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

Proposed law will result in a significant, but indeterminable, increase in Statutory Dedications (Transportation Trust Fund) expenditures for the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD). Proposed law provides for the Interstate Highway Signage Maintenance and Reporting Program to proactively maintain and repair interstate highway signage. DOTD anticipates a significant increase in both administrative and operational costs associated with the implementation of proposed law. The department reports that the cost of creating the new program is unknown at this time, but at a minimum, it would require additional staff at an estimated cost of \$100,000 to \$150,000 annually.

The largest cost driver of proposed law is additional sign washing. DOTD estimates that approximately 50,000 interstate signs would require regular cleaning under proposed law. The estimated costs for cleaning range from \$275 to \$475 per sign, for a total ranging from \$13.75 M to \$23.75 M. It is unclear from proposed law whether regular maintenance should be performed annually or if the department can establish a schedule spread across multiple fiscal years.

Proposed law requires the creation of a method for reporting real-time documentation of broken, bent, or missing signs with geolocation data and a monitoring system for submission of before and after photos of signs on which maintenance is performed. The exact fiscal impact of creating these systems is indeterminable, but the department estimates it may cost between \$100,000 to \$300,000 annually for the upgraded software.

For informational purposes, in FY 25, the department spent approximately \$1.67 M for interstate sign maintenance and repair activities.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

There is no anticipated direct material effect on governmental revenues as a result of this measure.

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