

ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-Fifth Legislature, First Regular Session

AMENDED FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2110

civil penalties; traffic; mitigation; restitution

<u>Purpose</u>

Allows a court to order community restitution in lieu of a monetary obligation at a rate equal to Arizona's minimum wage, rounded up to the nearest dollar.

Background

Current statute allows a judge to mitigate any civil penalty related to a civil traffic violation if the person ordered to pay the penalty demonstrates that the payment would be a hardship on the person or their immediate family. The court is allowed to consider any relevant information in determining whether to mitigate a civil penalty, including: 1) the civil penalty's impact on the person's ability to pay restitution; 2) whether the civil penalty would constitute a financial hardship to the person or their immediate family; 3) whether the person receives Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or Supplemental Nutritional Assistance; 4) whether the person receives benefits pursuant to the Supplemental Security Income Program; and 5) whether the person is legally authorized to be employed and is seeking, obtaining or maintaining employment or is attending school (A.R.S. § 28-1603).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

- 1. Allows a court, if requested by a person other than a juvenile offender, to order the person to perform community restitution in lieu of a monetary obligation imposed for a civil traffic violation, a criminal violation or on a juvenile offender.
- 2. Requires the court to credit any community restitution performed at a rate equal to Arizona's minimum wage rounded up to the nearest dollar.
- 3. Requires the court to determine the location where community restitution is performed.
- 4. Allows a judge to mitigate any civil penalty for a motor vehicle driver license violation.
- 5. Defines *monetary obligation* as a civil penalty, a surcharge, an assessment or a fee, except for a time payment fee.
- 6. Makes a technical change.
- 7. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

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Amendments Adopted by Committee

- 1. Specifies that the rate at which community restitution is credited must be equal to the state minimum wage rounded up to the nearest dollar.
- 2. Specifies that community restitution may be ordered on the defendant's request, except in the case of a juvenile offender.

House Action Senate Action

TRANS 1/20/21 DP 6-2-1-3 TAT 3/22/21 DPA 5-3-1 3rd Read 2/4/21 43-16-0-0-1

Prepared by Senate Research March 24, 2021 ZD/SS/kja