

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6456
BILL NUMBER: SB 156

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 11, 2022
BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Motor Vehicle Crash Investigations.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Crider
FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill has the following provisions:

- (1) Changes the property damage requirement to \$2,500 (current law is \$1,000) for certain failures to provide evidence of financial responsibility following a motor vehicle accident.
- (2) Changes the apparent damage requirement for a law enforcement officer to investigate motor vehicle accidents involving property damage to \$2,500 (current law is \$1,000).
- (3) Adds certain infractions and offenses to the list of violations enforceable by weigh station supervisors or operators.

Effective Date: July 1, 2022.

Explanation of State Expenditures: To the extent increasing property damage requirements where law enforcement agencies are required to investigate a motor vehicle accident decreases demand for inspections, the workload of the Indiana State Police (ISP) will decrease.

Additionally, the bill could decrease the number of license suspensions BMV performs related to failure to provide proof of financial responsibility. Decreases in BMV workload is expected to be minimal.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Summary* - This bill could reduce revenue to the State Highway Fund (by way of the Motor Vehicle Highway Account) and the Financial Responsibility Compliance Verification Fund. The bill could also increase revenue to the General Fund from potential increases in Class C infraction judgments. The bill's total impact on state revenue is expected to be minimal.

Additional Information -

License Reinstatement Fees: This bill could reduce the number of individuals who have their driver's license suspended as a result of failure to maintain financial responsibility. Currently, a set amount of each reinstatement fee is deposited into the Financial Responsibility Compliance Verification Fund, while the remaining portion is deposited into the Motor Vehicle Highway Account (MVHA).

The current fees paid for a license reinstatement after suspension for failure to maintain financial responsibility are as follows:

Suspension	Total Fee	Motor Vehicle Highway Account	Financial Responsibility Compliance Verification Fund
First Offense	\$250	\$130	\$120
Second Offense	\$500	\$305	\$195
Third or Subsequent Offense	\$1,000	\$730	\$270

Weigh Station Enforcement: The bill allows qualified persons who operate ISP weigh stations to also enforce provisions in current law governing the use of a telecommunication device while driving and medical restrictions for licensed drivers. As a result, the number of Class C infractions could increase. There are 10 weigh stations located in the state. The maximum judgment for a Class C infraction is \$500, which would be deposited in the state General Fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: To the extent increasing property damage requirements where law enforcement agencies are required to investigate a motor vehicle accident decreases demand for inspections, the workload of local police agencies will decrease.

Explanation of Local Revenues: If additional court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any additional revenue is likely to be small. Additionally, any revenue reduction to the MVHA will impact funding distributions to local units of government. The bill's impact on local MVHA funding is expected to be minimal.

State Agencies Affected: ISP, BMV.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies, MVHA funding recipients.

Information Sources: Indiana State Police Size and Weight Enforcement Division; <https://www.in.gov/isp/commands/commercial-vehicle-enforcement/size-and-weight-enforcement>

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