

Legislative Analysis



TURNING LEFT ACROSS TRAFFIC

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 5370 as reported from committee

Sponsor: Rep. Scott VanSingel

Committee: Transportation

Complete to 12-1-21

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

(Enacted as Public Act 92 of 2022)

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5370 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code by adding section 649a to provide that the driver of a vehicle not at an intersection¹ who intends to turn left across a lane of oncoming traffic must yield the right-of-way to a vehicle approaching from the opposite direction that is close enough to constitute an immediate hazard.

A person who violated these provisions would be responsible for a civil infraction.

Proposed MCL 257.649a

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 5370 would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the state and on local units of government. The number of individuals that would be responsible for a civil infraction under provisions of the bill is not known.

Under section 909(1) of the Michigan Vehicle Code, civil fine revenue would be applied to the support of public and county law libraries. In addition, under section 907(13) of the Michigan Vehicle Code, for any civil fines ordered to be paid, the judge or district court magistrate is required to order the defendant to pay a justice system assessment of \$40 for each civil infraction determination, except for parking violations. Revenue deposited into the state's Justice System Fund supports various justice-related endeavors in the judicial branch, the Departments of State Police, Corrections, Health and Human Services, and Treasury, and the Legislative Retirement System.

There is not a practical way to determine the number of violations that will occur under provisions of the bill, so there is not a way to estimate the amount of additional revenue that would be collected.

The fiscal impact on local court systems would depend on how provisions of the bill affected court caseloads and related administrative costs. It is difficult to project the actual fiscal impact to courts due to variables such as law enforcement practices, prosecutorial practices, judicial discretion, case types, and complexity of cases

¹ Section 650 of the code addresses a left turn by a vehicle in an intersection

POSITIONS:

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

- Department of State Police (11-2-21)
- ABATE (American Bikers Aiming Toward Education) of Michigan (11-9-21)

Legislative Analyst: E. Best
Fiscal Analyst: Robin Risko

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.