

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1944 - SB 1913

February 2, 2024

SUMMARY OF BILL: Creates a Class B misdemeanor offense for operating on any street, road, or highway a motor vehicle that, by alteration of the suspension, frame, or chassis, has a front fender that is four or more inches greater in height than that of the rear fender.

Establishes penalties as follows:

- First offense: fine of \$250;
- Second offense: fine of \$500; and
- Third offense: fine of \$500 and 12-month revocation of driver license.

Requires clerks of court to give notice to the Department of Safety (DOS) of any such violation within 30 days of conviction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- The proposed penalties for the new misdemeanor offense do not include incarceration. Therefore, there will be no fiscal impact to local governments related to incarceration.
- Based on the Fiscal Review Committee's 2008 study and the Administrative Office of the Courts' 2012 study on collection of court costs, fees, and fines, collection in criminal cases is minimal due to defendants often not being able to pay them; therefore, any increase in local revenue from fines is estimated to be not significant.
- The loss of a person's driver license upon a third offense is assumed to be an effective deterrent to minimize repeat offenses. In addition, it is assumed that law enforcement will be effectively aided in its enforcement by the fact that a violation will be easily evident for officers to observe in the normal course of business.
- It is assumed that clerks of court can provide notice of violations to the DOS in the normal course of business within existing resources.
- The DOS can comply with the legislation's requirements and issue any revocations in the normal course of business without incurring a significant increase in expenditures.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and 'C'.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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