

FISCAL NOTE

SB 1731 - HB 1559

February 22, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL: Amends law relative to child passenger restraints and safety belts by:

- deleting the provision which authorized a mother to hold a child under four years old to attend to its physiological needs rather than have the child properly secured when riding in a motor vehicle. Mother would still be authorized to hold a child while breast feeding.
- requiring any person transporting a child between 4 and 8 years of age who weighs less than 80 pounds in a motor vehicle to provide for the protection of the child and properly use a child passenger booster-seat restraint system which meets federal motor vehicle safety standards. Current law only specifies use of safety belts.
- deleting provision which exempted children aged 4 through 15 riding in the back seat from properly using passenger restraints if all the seat belts or other restraints were occupied.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Revenues - Not Significant/General Fund
Not Significant/Child Safety Fund
Not Significant/Earmarked for Division of
Vocational Rehabilitation**

Estimate assumes an increase in state revenues from fines levied and collected from additional violations of the child passenger restraint law due to the booster-seat requirement contained in the bill and additional violations of safety belt requirements due to the deletion of the exemption when all belts are occupied. Current law provides for \$10 of the \$20 fine for violations of the child passenger restraint law to go to the General Fund and the remaining \$10 to the Child Safety Fund. The fines for violations of safety belt requirements are earmarked for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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