

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1416 – SB 1608

January 25, 2016

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the “Slow Poke Law” prohibiting a person from operating a vehicle in the far left lane of an interstate or multilane divided highway that has three or more lanes in each direction, except when overtaking or passing a vehicle that is in a non-passing lane. Authorizes the Department of Transportation (TDOT) to erect signs or official traffic control devices to restrict usage of a lane designated for passing. Creates a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine only of \$50.00 for any violation.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenue – Exceeds \$1,100/Recurring

Increase State Expenditures – \$444,500/Highway Fund/One-Time

Increase Local Revenue – Exceeds \$100/Recurring

Assumptions:

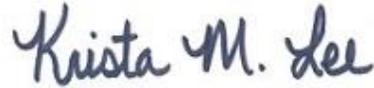
- Based on information provided by TDOT, there are a total of 393 miles of three lane or more divided roadways in Tennessee applicable to the bill.
- The Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police reports local agencies currently do not maintain data sufficient to project a number of citations issued relative to the provisions of this bill.
- Given the small amount of applicable roadway relative to overall roadway, the number of citations issued is reasonably estimated to exceed 30 per year.
- An average Class C misdemeanor fine of \$50.
- Twenty percent of fines are assumed to go unpaid due to indigence.
- Pursuant to 55-10-303 and 40-24-101, 95 percent of collected citation revenue shall be remitted to the state, and the remaining 5 percent shall be retained by the applicable local government entity.
- Annual revenue from citations is estimated to exceed \$1,200 (minimum 30 citations x \$50 fine x 80.0% paid).
- A recurring increase in state revenue estimated to exceed \$1,140 (\$1,200 x 95.0%).
- A recurring increase in local revenue is estimated to exceed \$60 (\$1,200 x 5.0%).

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- For purposes of the fiscal analysis, it is assumed TDOT will install signage at the beginning of each applicable roadway section and an additional sign at the midpoint of any applicable section greater than 20 miles in length.
- According to information provided by TDOT, 70 interstate signs at a total cost of \$112,000, and 175 median divide highway signs at a total cost of \$332,500 will be required. The total one-time increase in state expenditures from the Highway Fund is estimated to be \$444,500 (\$332,500 + \$112,000).

CERTIFICATION:

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



Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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