

Department of Finance and Administration

Legislative Impact Statement

Bill: HB1394

Bill Subtitle: TO MAKE OUR ROADS SAFER BY PROVIDING FOR EDUCATION AND TESTING CONCERNING DISTRACTED DRIVING; AND TO ENSURE DETERRENCE FROM TEXTING WHILE DRIVING BY INCREASING THE RELATED PENALTIES.

Basic Change :

Sponsors: Representatives Fielding, Baltz, Hawthorne, House, Julian, McGill, Sabin, F. Smith, D. Whitaker, Word and Senator Irvin

The bill amends various sections of the law providing for education and testing concerning distracted driving to ensure deterrence from texting while driving and also increases the penalties for texting while driving. The increased penalties include not only an increased fine, but provide for driver's license suspension as follows:

- For a first offense the driver's license suspension not more than 30 days
- For a second offense occurring within five (5) years of the first offense a suspension of not more than 90 days
- For a third and subsequent offense occurring within five (5) years of the first offense, a suspension of not more than 1 year

Upon request of a person whose license has been suspended, the Office of Driver Services may issue a restricted driving permit. This law will not apply to a person operating a commercial motor vehicle.

Revenue Impact :

None

Taxpayer Impact :

There are increased fines and suspension of license provided for texting while driving convictions.

Resources Required :

None

Time Required :

None

Procedural Changes :

The Office of Driver Services Hearing Officers will issue a new restricted permit if this bill is passed.

Other Comments :

None

Legal Analysis :

None