

Department of Planning and Budget 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number HB 715

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron Delegate McQuigg

3. Committee Transportation

4. Title Use of certain wireless communication devices by motor vehicle operators; fine

5. Summary/Purpose:

This bill provides that, except for emergencies, the operator of a moving motor vehicle is prohibited from using any wireless communication device unless it is equipped for hands-free communication and is being used as such. Exceptions to this prohibition include:

- Performance of official duties such as law enforcement, fire rescue, or operation of an emergency vehicle;
- Fear for life or safety, or witnessing or being a victim to a crime;
- Reporting an emergency situation, including a fire, traffic accident, or serious road hazard; and
- Initiating or terminating a phone call or turning the wireless device on or off.

A driver may not be fined more than \$50 for violating this section and will not receive any driver demerit points.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are: Indeterminate

7. Budget amendment necessary: N/A

8. Fiscal implications: Currently, there is insufficient information available to reliably estimate how many violations could result from this proposal. However, any fines collected under this provision would be deposited to the Literary Fund.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: N/A

10. Technical amendment necessary: N/A

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 01/25/06 / sas

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