

## Department of Planning and Budget

### 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** SB555

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron** Stolle

**3. Committee** Transportation

**4. Title** Commonwealth Transportation Safety Fund; court-ordered payments for certain offenses related to the operation of motor vehicles

**5. Summary/Purpose:** This bill establishes the Commonwealth Transportation Safety Fund to be used to fund capital projects and operations necessary to improve the safety of the Commonwealth's roads, and to provide for increased law-enforcement on Virginia's interstates and roads through the Highway Safety Corridor Program. (The 2003 General Assembly directed three state agencies, Virginia State Police, Department of Motor Vehicles and Department of Transportation, to create a highway safety corridor program that addresses safety in high crash locations on interstate and primary roads.) Upon conviction of certain dangerous driving offenses and traffic infractions for which the Department of Motor Vehicles assigns 6 demerit points, a court shall order the offender to make a payment into the Fund. The court shall collect the payments on behalf of the Commonwealth and remit the payments to the Fund.

**6. Fiscal impact estimates are preliminary.** See Item #8.

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal implications:** Revenue projections were developed based on conviction data recorded for fiscal year 2005. The bill proposes additional payments of \$100 and \$200 upon conviction of certain types of dangerous driving offenses or traffic infractions. FY 2005 data indicates that in the \$100 offense category, 49,729 convictions occurred, primarily comprised of convictions of driving 20 or more miles per hour over the allowed speed limit. Within the \$200 category of offenses, there were 158,456 convictions in FY 2005. The most frequent offenses in this category were reckless driving (20 miles per hour above the speed limit per §46.2-862), driving while intoxicated, and driving with a suspended or revoked license. Assuming the number and nature of convictions remained constant and that 100 percent of the violators make the payment, an upper limit of \$36.7 million annually could be deposited to the Commonwealth Transportation Safety Fund. However, it is unlikely that 100 percent of violators would pay and that a lesser amount would be received by the Fund on an annual basis.

Feedback from the courts on this bill indicates that it does not have a major impact. They will have to create another account code, which involves some programming. They do point

out that, as a result of the overall increase in costs imposed, there may be more suspensions due to failure to pay.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Supreme Court, Department of Motor Vehicles.

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** No.

**11. Other comments:** None.

**Date:** 01/31/06/jlv

**Document:** G:\06-08\Fis\Dmv\Sb555.Doc Janet Vogelgesang

cc: Secretary of Transportation