

Department of Motor Vehicles 2006 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number** HB5061

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☒ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. **Patron** Oder

3. **Committee** Courts of Justice

4. **Title** Height of vehicles; penalty.

5. **Summary/Purpose:** Provides that any person driving or attempting to drive a vehicle or any combination of vehicles into or through any tunnel when the permitted height of the vehicle exceeds the height of the tunnel shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and fines the driver a mandatory minimum of \$1,000, and fines the owner of the vehicle a mandatory minimum of \$2,500 for subsequent offenses.

6. **Fiscal Impacts are unknown**

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

8. **Fiscal implications:** Unknown; see item 11 below.

9. **Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** DMV, VDOT, State Police

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

11. **Other comments:** The impact on suspensions of persons who are owners and/or drivers who fail to pay fines is unknown. As for revenue and expenditure impacts, overall impacts are unknown. There is no data available for fines charged in relation to misdemeanor convictions under the current law. Data from State Police indicates 234 summonses were issued at the Hampton Roads Tunnel alone for vehicle height violations in calendar year 2005. DMV conviction data indicates 136 convictions were issued for vehicle height violations in the last half of calendar year 2005. There were a total of 20,295 height-related stops in the Hampton Roads District in calendar year 2005; 12,775 vehicles were stopped, measured and turned around because of height violations. The Hampton Roads District includes the Elizabeth River midtown and downtown tunnels, the Hampton Roads bridge-tunnel and the Monitor-Merrimac Memorial bridge-tunnel.

Date: 10/03/06 /jmc

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cc: Secretary of Transportation