

Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB214

House of Origin Introduced X Substitute X Engrossed
Second House X In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Greason

3. Committee: Senate Transportation

4. Title: **HOV lanes; use by vehicle with clean special fuel license plates.**

5. Summary: The proposed legislation would extend the occupancy exemption on certain high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes for vehicles bearing clean special fuel vehicle license plates to July 1, 2011. The current occupancy exemption is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2010. The exemption authorizes such vehicles to use HOV lanes without meeting the required number of passengers. Section 46.2-749.3, Code of Virginia, limits the exemption on the I-95\395 corridor to those vehicles with clean special fuel vehicle plates which were issued prior to July 1, 2006.

6. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See Item 8.

7. Budget Amendment Necessary: None.

8. Fiscal Implications: House Bill 1248, passed in the 2006 General Assembly session, directed a portion of each clean special fuel license plate registration, after the first thousand issued, to the Virginia State Police for HOV lane enforcement. The State Police received \$293,955 from the registrations last year. Many of the vehicles in Virginia registered as clean special fuel vehicles are hybrid electric vehicles owned by Northern Virginia residents who utilize the HOV lanes. If the HOV lane exemption for clean special fuel vehicles ended, there would likely be a decrease in the number of special fuel license plates issued and a decrease the amount of funding provided to the State Police.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia State Police

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

11. Other Comments: Similar to SB 552.

Federal authorization which allows the exemption of low emission and energy efficient vehicles in HOV lanes is set to expire on February 28, 2010. This bill extends the state's sunset clause of the exemption beyond that date.

Date: 2/5/2010 dpb/smc

Document: G:\GA\FIS 2010\HB214H1.doc