## Department of Planning and Budget 2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1.	Bill Number:	HB1173		
	House of Origin	Introduced	Substitute	Engrossed
	Second House	In Committee	Substitute	Enrolled

- **2. Patron:** Sullivan
- 3. Committee: Transportation.
- 4. Title: Careless driving; cause of injury to vulnerable road user.
- **5. Summary:** The bill provides that a person is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor who operates a motor vehicle in a careless or distracted manner and is the proximate cause of serious physical injury to a vulnerable road user, defined as pedestrian or a person riding a bicycle, electric personal assistive mobility device, electric power-assisted bicycle, wheelchair, skateboard, roller or in-line skates, foot-scooter, animal, or animal-drawn vehicle. The bill requires a suspension of the person's drivers license for a period of not less than one year and not more than three years.
- 6. Budget Amendment Necessary: None.
- 7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.
- 8. Fiscal Implications: Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate how many additional inmates in jail could result from this proposal. Ultimately, the presiding judge will decide if there is to be any time served in jail; however, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds most of the jails' operating costs, e.g. correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2015), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged \$32.24 per inmate, per day in FY 2014.

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will be required to create a new conviction code in their IT systems, and program the systems to generate a suspension if ordered by the court. DMV estimates these requirements will result in a one-time IT expenditure of \$38,430 which can be met with existing resources.

- **9.** Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Motor Vehicles, courts, local and regional jails, and Compensation Board.
- 10. Technical Amendment Necessary: None.

## 11. Other Comments: Identical to SB663.

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