

Department of Planning and Budget

2016 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB 78

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: O'Quinn

3. Committee: Transportation

4. Title: Failure to drive on right side of highways or observe traffic lanes; penalties.

5. Summary: Increases the fine for failing to drive on the right side of highways or failing to observe traffic lanes from no more than \$250 to a fine of \$300 per violation.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary. See item 8.

8. Fiscal Implications: This legislation could result in additional revenues to the Commonwealth's Literary Fund by increasing the amount of an existing fine applied to traffic infractions under sections 46.2-802 and 46.2-804 of the Code of Virginia.

According to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), 1,618 people in 2015, 1,731 in 2014, and 1,905 in 2013, were convicted of a violation of the provision to drive on the right side of the highway (section 46.2-802). If the average conviction rate continues, it is projected that about 1,751 convictions will occur annually in the future. At the estimated annual conviction rate, an increase in the fine for violations of section 46.2-802 would generate an additional \$87,550 in revenue for the Commonwealth's Literary Fund.

According to DMV, there were 12,054 convictions in 2015, 13,720 in 2014, and 13,178 in 2013, of failure to obey traffic lanes (section 46.2-804). If the average conviction rate continues, it is projected that about 12,984 convictions will occur annually in the future. At the estimated annual conviction rate, an increase in the fine for violations of section 46.2-804 would generate an additional \$649,200 in revenue for the Commonwealth's Literary Fund.

Any fines collected by localities under a similar local ordinance would belong to those localities. Local collections should not affect the above estimates, which were based only on state conviction rates.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Virginia's judicial system; law enforcement agencies.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.