

Department of Planning and Budget

2023 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB982

House of Origin ☒ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed

Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Marsden

3. Committee: Transportation

4. Title: Yielding or reducing speed for stationary vehicles; vehicles displaying hazard lights, caution signs, or road flares.

5. Summary: Requires drivers to make a lane change or reduce speed when passing stationary vehicles that have activated the vehicular hazard warning signal flashers, displayed caution signs, or been marked with properly lit flares or torches on certain highways when safe and reasonable to do so, and makes a violation of this requirement a traffic infraction.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary (see Item 8).

8. Fiscal Implications: Under the provisions of the proposal, any operator of a motor vehicle who upon approaching a stationary vehicle that (i) is displaying a flashing, blinking, or alternating amber light or lights; (ii) has activated the vehicular hazard warning signal flashers; (iii) is displaying caution signs; or (iv) is marked with properly lit flare or torches must yield the right-of-way by making a lane change when on a highway having at least four lanes and when it is safe and reasonable to do so or proceed with due caution if a lane change is unreasonable or unsafe. A violation of this provision is punishable as a traffic infraction. Fines and penalties collected from traffic infractions are deposited into the State Literary Fund or into the treasuries of the localities where the violation occurred, depending on who writes the ticket and whether state or local law is cited. As such, the impact of the proposal on these revenues is indeterminate.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: State and local law enforcement, local governments.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.