

Department of Planning and Budget 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** SB1073

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

2. **Patron:** Marsden

3. **Committee:** Passed Both Houses

4. **Title:** Motor vehicles; removal from roadway when involved in an accident on HOT lane on I-66

5. **Summary:** Requires the driver of a motor vehicle involved in an accident on a high occupancy toll (HOT) lane that is under construction on Interstate 66 to move such motor vehicle to the nearest pull-off area if the driver can safely do so, the vehicle is movable, and there are no injuries or deaths resulting from the accident. A violation would result in a fine of \$20. The bill provides that such requirement will expire upon the certification by the Secretary of Transportation that the HOT lane construction on I-66 is complete.

6. **Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final. See item 8.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** This proposal has the potential to reduce traffic congestion on Interstate 66 during construction by requiring vehicles in accidents who can safely do so to move to the nearest pull-off area. This in turn could avoid costs to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Department of State Police related to resources provided by these agencies to address traffic accident incidents on Interstate 66 during construction. The extent of any cost avoidance is indeterminate. Reduction in congestion also reduces the cost of time lost to motorists and businesses impacted by traffic congestion.

It is estimated that four signs may be required to inform the public of the requirement to move vehicles to pull-off areas where shoulders are not available. The cost per sign is estimated to be \$4,500 each for a total cost of \$18,000. It is anticipated that VDOT would be able to absorb the cost of production and placement of the necessary signage.

The bill would also impose a fine of \$20 for failure to move to the nearest pull-off area, when possible. The payments of fines in traffic cases issued by an officer of the Department of State Police are deposited into the Literary Fund. The impact to the Literary Fund is indeterminate.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia State Police, local law-enforcement agencies.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.