COMMITTEE REPORT

March 7, 2019

**H. 3357**

Introduced by Reps. Wooten, Collins, Brawley, Huggins, Taylor and Hixon

S. Printed 3/7/19--H.

Read the first time January 8, 2019.

**THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLIC WORKS**

To whom was referred a Bill (H. 3357) to amend the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, by adding Section 56‑3‑115 so as to provide that the Department of Motor Vehicles may add, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking all after the enacting words and inserting:

/SECTION 1. Article 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑3‑115. The Department of Motor Vehicles may add a notation to a private passenger‑carrying motor vehicle registration to indicate that the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing. The application for this special motor vehicle registration notation must include an original certificate from a licensed physician, as defined in Section 40‑47‑5, or licensed audiologist, as defined in Section 40-67-220, that certifies that the applicant has a permanent, uncorrectable hearing loss of forty decibels or more in one or both ears. The ‘deaf or hard of hearing’ notation would only appear when a law enforcement check is run on the vehicle’s license plate through the department’s online interface with law enforcement to alert the officer that the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect one year after approval by the Governor. /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

MERITA A. ALLISON for Committee.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Updated for Additional Agency Response on February 27, 2019**

**Introduced on January 8, 2019**

**State Expenditure**

This bill allows DMV to add a notation to a private passenger-carrying motor vehicle registration to indicate to law enforcement that the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing.

DMV indicates that all work will be performed by contractors supporting DMV application development, at a rate of $110 per hour. The agency estimates the following man-hours are needed to complete this project: 16 hours to define where and how to capture the vehicle notification attributes in the current system, 8 hours for database updates, and 16 hours for technical specifications. In addition, approximately 120 hours are needed for development, 20 hours are needed for testing, and 6 hours are needed for deployment and coordination with Law Enforcement.

In total, DMV estimates the need for 186 man-hours to complete this project. At a rate of $110 per hour, the expenditure impact of this bill on the agency is approximately $20,460. This fiscal impact statement has been updated based on a response from DMV.

**Introduced on January 8, 2019State Expenditure**

This bill allows the DMV to add a notation to a private passenger-carrying motor vehicle registration to indicate that the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing.

The expenditure impact of this bill on the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is pending, contingent upon a response from the agency.

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 56‑3‑115 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES MAY ADD A NOTATION TO A PRIVATE PASSENGER‑CARRYING MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION TO INDICATE THE VEHICLE OWNER MAY BE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 3, Title 56 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 56‑3‑115. The Department of Motor Vehicles may add a notation to a private passenger‑carrying motor vehicle registration to indicate that the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing. The application for this special motor vehicle registration notation must include an original certificate from a licensed physician, as defined in Section 40‑75‑5, that certifies that the applicant has a permanent, uncorrectable hearing loss of forty decibels or more in one or both ears. The ‘deaf or hard of hearing’ notation would only appear when a law enforcement check is run on the vehicle’s license plate to alert the officer that the driver may be deaf or hard of hearing.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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