



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE

STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT

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This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.

Bill Number:	S. 0111	Introduced on January 14, 2025
Subject:	Failure to Stop	
Requestor:	Senate Transportation	
RFA Analyst(s):	Griffith	
Impact Date:	February 25, 2025	

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill adds a subsection to §56-5-750, which creates a new felony offense for an individual who leads a law enforcement officer on a high-speed pursuit, which is recorded on a law enforcement video vehicle recording device or on an officer's body worn camera, or both. Upon conviction, the individual is guilty of a felony and must be imprisoned not less than three years and not more than five years, no part of which may be suspended. Further, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) must suspend the individual's driver's license for one year from the date of conviction.

This bill creates a new felony offense that is punishable by imprisonment of a minimum of three years and a maximum of five years. It is likely that the new felony offense would be an additional or alternative charge for cases that would already be charged under existing statutes. Therefore, the bill is not expected to have an additional impact on the court system, the Commission of Indigent Defense, the Commission on Prosecution Coordination, or the Department of Corrections. However, if this bill results in a significant increase in the workload, then an increase in General Fund appropriations may be requested. The bill may impact the length of incarcerations, which may increase the population of the Department of Corrections. The potential increase in expenses will depend upon the resulting change in the length of incarcerations, which is subject to judicial discretion. For information, according to Corrections, in FY 2023-24, the annual total cost per inmate was \$40,429, of which \$36,553 was state funded.

The expenditure impact on the Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon (PPP) and DMV is pending, contingent upon responses from the agencies.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 14, 2025

State Expenditure

This bill provides that if a motor vehicle driver fails to stop after being signaled by a law enforcement vehicle and leads a law enforcement officer on a high-speed pursuit, which is recorded on a law enforcement video vehicle recording device or on an officer's body worn camera, or both, the offender is guilty of a felony. Upon conviction, the offender must be imprisoned not less than three years and not more than five years, no part of which may be

suspended. Further, DMV must suspend the person's driver's license for one year from the date of conviction.

Currently, failure to stop after being signaled by law enforcement is a misdemeanor or felony as provided in §56-5-750. This bill creates a new felony offense that is punishable by imprisonment of a minimum of three years and a maximum of five years. It is likely that the new felony offense would be an additional or alternative charge for cases that would already be charged under existing statutes. Therefore, the bill is not expected to have an additional impact on the court system, Commission of Indigent Defense, the Commission on Prosecution Coordination, and the Department of Corrections. However, if this bill results in a significant increase in the workload, then an increase in General Fund appropriations may be requested. For reference, there were a total of 3,859 dispositions for failure to stop for blue lights in FY 2023-24, which represented a 2.8 percent of total circuit court dispositions during that time period.

The bill may impact the length of incarcerations, which may increase the population of the Department of Corrections. The potential increase in expenses will depend upon the resulting change in the length of incarcerations, which is subject to judicial discretion. For information, according to Corrections, in FY 2023-24, the annual total cost per inmate was \$40,429, of which \$36,553 was state funded.

The expenditure impact on PPP and DMV is pending, contingent upon responses from the agencies.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director