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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Park DATE TYPED: 02/06/03 HB 224

SHORT TITLE: Prohibit Cellular Phone Use While Driving SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST: Fox-Young

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
			\$0.1 Significant	Recurring	

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### REVENUE

Estimated Revenue		Subsequent Years Impact	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04			
	\$0.1 Unknown	\$0.1 Unknown	Recurring	

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Relates to SB 110

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From:

- Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
- Association of District Attorneys (AODA)
- State Highway and Transportation Department (SHTD)
- Attorney General (AG)
- Department of Public Safety (DPS)

## **SUMMARY**

### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 224 amends the Motor Vehicle Code, to say "a person shall not use a hand-held cellular phone while driving a motor vehicle on a highway." Violation is a special penalty misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$30.

The bill also cleans up technical language in the statute regarding the acceptance of a notice to appear in lieu of a notice of penalty assessment.

### Significant Issues

The State Highway and Transportation Department (SHTD) reports that one of the department's goals is to reduce all motor vehicle related crashes, injuries, and deaths. The Traffic Safety Bureau currently has the following performance measures related to traffic fatalities:

Outcome: Reduce the number of head-on crashes per one hundred million vehicle miles traveled.

Outcome: Reduce the number of traffic fatalities per one hundred million vehicle miles traveled.

The passage of this Bill would likely reduce crashes related to inattention, having a positive effect on the above outcomes.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Agencies involved in motor vehicle regulation will likely see an increase in workload. The bill could have a significant impact on the Department of Public Safety (DPS), both on the State Police Division and the Motor Transportation Division. There will likely be significant costs associated with enforcement; however, those costs are difficult to measure. The most significant of these consists of officer time issuing and processing citations.

This legislation will likely have a significant fiscal impact on magistrate, municipal and metropolitan courts. The cost of issuing assessments and processing cases will increase.

The \$30 fine that may be imposed for this misdemeanor offense will likely spur a small increase in revenues, although the amount of that increase is unknown.

**JCF/sb:yr**