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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Smith DATE TYPED: 02/18/03 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE: Amber Alert Systems SB 218

ANALYST: Fox-Young

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
			.1 Minimal		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB 110 and Relates to HJCS/16 and 161

### **SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

Responses Received From:

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

### **SUMMARY**

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 218 enacts the amber alert law, mandating the Department of Public Safety (DPS) develop and implement an amber alert notification plan. This plan would effectuate rapid dissemination of information about child abductions to local law enforcement agencies and citizens around the state.

Significant Issues

The bill gives DPS the authority to establish criteria for what constitutes child abduction for purposes of the amber alert system as well as protocol for implementation of the system. The bill makes participation of private media outlets voluntary, and it mandates that DPS work with law enforcement agencies in bordering states to develop a regional amber alert system.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The burden of disseminating emergency information falls on the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and General Services Department (GSD). These agencies will have to draw on existing resources to develop and maintain the amber alert system.

**RELATES**

Duplicates SB 110.

The bill relates to and partially duplicates HJCS for HB 16 and HB 161. Major differences are:

- HJCS/16 and 161 defines child abduction for purposes of the amber alert system. SB 218 gives DPS the authority to set the criteria for what constitutes child abduction.
- HJCS/16 and 161 provides a criminal penalty for knowing submission of false information resulting in the declaration of an amber alert, making it a petty misdemeanor. SB 218 does not enact a criminal penalty.
- HJCS/16 and 161 contains an emergency clause. SB 218 does not.

JCF/sb