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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/13/07
 SPONSOR HTPWC LAST UPDATED 3/16/07 HB CS/43/aSCONC
 SHORT TITLE Add Agencies with Government License Plates SB _____
 ANALYST Earnest

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08	FY09		
(\$0.1)	(\$0.1)	(\$0.1)	Recurring	State Road Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

Relates to SCORC substitutes for Senate Bills 290 and 315

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of SCONC Amendment

The Senate Conservation Committee (SCONC) amendment adds Subsections E and F to 66-6-15 to require vehicles or trailers in service of the state to display a plate furnished by the Transportation Services Division (TSD) of the General Services Department (GSD). The vehicles or trailers need not be registered with the Motor Vehicle Division. The plates issued by GSD shall be:

1. permanent and shall not be renewed;
2. numbered to identify the state agency to which they are issued; and
3. the same size but a different color from registration plates issued to private vehicles or trailers.

Subsection F defines state agency, as used in Subsection E, as a state department, agency, board or commission, including the legislative and judicial branch or government, but not including public schools and institutions of higher education.

The definition of “state agency” in Subsection F conflicts with existing statute (66-3-28). Section 66-3-28, which is amended by section 1 of the bill, includes a definition of state agency that excludes the legislative and judicial branches.

Synopsis of Original Bill

The House Transportation and Public Works Committee (HTPWC) substitute for House Bill 43 would allow fleet vehicles of solid waste authorities, irrigation districts, mutual domestic water associations, and conservancy districts to obtain government registration plates. Vehicles with government plates are not required to be registered, but they must display plates provided by the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD). These plates are permanent and need not be renewed.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

According to the Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD), registration fee revenue would decrease under the proposal. Total impacts, however, are probably minor.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The bill adds irrigation districts, solid waste authorities, mutual domestic water associations, and conservancy districts to the definition of state agencies eligible for issuance of government plates. Recently, TRD had found that that such entities do not qualify for government plates under current statute. Government plates were issued by the Motor Vehicle Division of TRD in previous years. Since reversal of the policy, these entities have been required to pay yearly registration fees to license their vehicles.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None identified.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

The bill relates to the SCORC substitute for Senate Bill 290 and 315.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The bill references irrigation districts, mutual domestic water associations, solid waste authority, and conservancy district but doesn't specify that they must be public entities. TRD has suggested that without such clarification, there may be no basis to deny government plates to private associations and similar organizations, such as private acequia associations.

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