



FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 8

Committee: Public Safety and Homeland
Security

Sponsor: Representative Randy Wood

Analyst: Peter Grogan

Date: 03/20/2023

House Bill 8 as introduced could increase the obligations of state and local law enforcement agencies by an undetermined amount related to the record keeping and reporting of traffic stops made under the provisions of this bill. This bill would also increase obligations of the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency by an estimated \$22,000 for information technology related programming related to the offender's driving record.

Further, this bill revises the penalty for illegal use of a wireless telecommunications device from \$25, \$50, and \$75 for the first, second, and subsequent violations, respectively, under current law, to: (1) \$100 fine or 15-hours of community service and two points on the individual's driving record for the first offense; (2) \$200 fine or 30-hours of community service and two points on the individual's driving record for the second offense within a 24-month period; and (3) \$300 fine or 45-hours of community service or both and three points on the individual's driving record for the third or subsequent violations within a 24-month period.

This bill would also increase the obligations of the Alabama Department of Economic Affairs (ADECA) by an undetermined amount to establish a hands-free communication device voucher program; however, these obligations may be offset, wholly or in part, by the deposit of \$25 of each fine collected under this act into the Traffic Safety Trust Fund, administered by ADECA, for operation of this program.

Further, this bill would require the Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) to establish and maintain a database of all individuals charged with a violation of this act. According to AOC, this bill will not increase its expenditures.



Finally, this bill also prohibits the imposition of court costs associated solely with a violation under these provisions which could reduce receipts to the State General Fund, county general funds, municipal general funds, and other funds to which court costs are deposited.