

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6093
BILL NUMBER: SB 294

DATE PREPARED: Feb 5, 2002
BILL AMENDED: Feb 4, 2002

SUBJECT: Operating a Vehicle While Intoxicated.

FISCAL ANALYST: Mark Goodpaster
PHONE NUMBER: 232-9852

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill has the following provisions:

- (a) It is a Class D felony for a person to operate a motor vehicle while intoxicated with at least one passenger less than 18 years of age in the vehicle.
- (b) It prohibits certain persons who have had their driving privileges suspended for life from filing a petition to obtain a restricted driving permit for a specified period.
- (c) It prohibits persons who have been convicted of certain offenses involving operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated from obtaining a probationary license.
- (d) It requires a court to recommend lifetime suspension of driving privileges for persons who: (1) have at least three unrelated convictions for certain offenses involving operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated; or (2) are convicted of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and causing death.
- (e) It increases or establishes mandatory jail time for persons convicted of committing certain offenses involving operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated.
- (f) It provides that court-ordered drug and alcohol assessment and treatment programs must be: (1) administered by a court; (2) certified; or (3) authorized under a circuit court alcohol abuse deterrent program.

Effective Date: July 1, 2002.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) State expenditures would increase if an offender is incarcerated in a state prison for a longer period of time. A Class D felony is punishable by a prison term ranging from six months to three years or reduction to Class A misdemeanor depending upon mitigating and aggravating circumstances. The average expenditure to house an adult offender was \$22,131 in FY 2000. Individual facility expenditures ranged from \$16,442 to \$40,312. (This does not include the cost of new construction.) If offenders can be housed in existing facilities with no additional staff, the average cost for medical care, food, and clothing is approximately \$1,825 annually, or \$5 daily, per prisoner. The average length of stay in DOC facilities for all Class D felony offenders is approximately ten months. The court would only be able to suspend the sentence of repeat offenders convicted of the Class D felony in excess of

the minimum sentence, which is six months.

Explanation of State Revenues: If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund and the state General Fund would increase. The maximum fine for a Class D felony is \$10,000. Criminal fines are deposited in the Common School Fund. If the case is filed in a circuit, superior or county court, 70% of the \$120 court fee that is assessed and collected when a guilty verdict is entered would be deposited in the state General Fund. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 55% of the fee would be deposited in the state General Fund.

If a criminal action, infraction or ordinance violation involves a traffic violation, including this proposed offense, a highway work zone fee of either 50 cents or \$25.50 is assessed.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) If more defendants are detained in county jails prior to their court hearings, local expenditures for jail operations may increase. The average cost per day is approximately \$44.

Explanation of Local Revenues: If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources: (1) The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$120 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. (2) A \$3 fee would be assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county law enforcement continuing education fund. (3) A \$2 jury fee is assessed and, if collected, would be deposited into the county user fee fund to supplement the compensation of jury members.

State Agencies Affected: Bureau of Motor Vehicles; Department of Correction.

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement.

Information Sources: Indiana Sheriffs Association, Department of Correction.