

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 22, 2009

TO: Honorable John Carona, Chair, Senate Committee on Transportation & Homeland Security

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2012 by Vaught (Relating to the criminal consequences of operating without a valid driver's license a motor vehicle for which financial responsibility is not established.),
Committee Report 2nd House, As Amended

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Section 521.457 of the Transportation Code to stipulate that a person commits a Class B misdemeanor if a person commits an offense of driving without a valid driver's license and at the time is also operating a motor vehicle without maintaining liability insurance. If at the time a person is driving without a valid driver's license, that person causes or is at fault in a motor vehicle accident that results in serious bodily injury to or the death of another and is driving without maintaining liability insurance, the offense would be a Class A misdemeanor. The bill would require the Legislative Budget Board to prepare an annual criminal justice policy impact statement relating to the offense of driving without a valid driver's license.

The punishment for a Class B misdemeanor is a fine not to exceed \$2,000, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both. The punishment for a Class A misdemeanor is a fine not to exceed \$4,000; confinement in jail for a term not to exceed one year; or both a fine and confinement.

It is anticipated that unless the increased offense level applies to a high number of the offenses committed, there would be no significant fiscal impact.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 405 Department of Public Safety

LBB Staff: JOB, KJG, MS, DB