

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2016 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 213

(Senator DeGrange, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

State Police - Speed Camera Revenue - Enforcement Activities

This bill changes a requirement that the Department of State Police (DSP) must use the balance of money in a special fund containing revenue from civil fines collected through use of a work zone speed control system to fund *roadside* enforcement activities. The bill broadens the current requirement by specifying that the balance of the money in the special fund must be distributed to DSP to fund enforcement activities.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2016.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not substantively change State activities or operations.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Under current law, the Comptroller must distribute revenue from the civil fines collected through use of a work zone speed control system. Money in the special fund must be distributed first to DSP and the State Highway Administration to cover the costs of implementing and administering work zone speed control systems. After the initial distribution, in fiscal 2016 through 2018 only, at least \$7 million must be distributed to DSP to be used only for the purchase of replacement vehicles and related motor vehicle equipment to outfit police vehicles. The balance of the money in the special fund must be distributed to DSP to fund roadside enforcement activities. DSP advises that

monies have never been appropriated for roadside enforcement activities. The Governor's proposed fiscal 2017 budget for DSP includes \$9.6 million from the Speed Monitoring Systems Fund for the other purposes.

A "work zone" is a segment of a highway identified as a temporary traffic control zone by a traffic control device in conformance with State specifications and where highway construction, repair, maintenance, utility work, or related activities are being performed, regardless of whether workers are present.

A "work zone speed control system" is a device having one or more motor vehicle sensors connected to a camera system capable of producing recorded images of motor vehicles traveling at or above a predetermined speed in or approaching a work zone.

A work zone speed control system may only be used while being operated by a work zone speed control system operator. A "work zone speed control system operator" is an individual who has been trained and certified to operate a work zone speed control system and who is (1) a police officer; (2) a representative of a local police department; (3) a representative of a State police department; or (4) a State Highway Administration contractor.

The maximum fine for a ticket issued by a work zone speed control system operator is \$40. A conspicuous road sign warning of the use of speed monitoring systems must be placed at a reasonable distance from the work zone.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Comptroller's Office, Department of State Police, Department of Legislative Services

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min/ljm

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