

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: April 5, 2011
POSITION: Oppose

BILL NUMBER: SB 29
AUTHOR: J. Simitian

BILL SUMMARY: Vehicles: Automated Traffic Enforcement Systems

This bill would place numerous restrictions on local agencies' use of automated traffic enforcement systems (red light cameras).

FISCAL SUMMARY

Red light camera operators indicate this bill would make the process cumbersome for cities and counties to comply, which could lead to discontinued use of the cameras because the revenues may not justify the additional activities required to continue operating the system.

Finance notes that the widespread reduced or discontinued use of red light cameras in the state would result in an erosion of state and local revenues. Finance estimates that annual revenues from these devices provide \$83 million to the State and \$57 million to local jurisdictions.

COMMENTS

Finance is opposed to this measure because it would make the installation and operation of red light cameras more cumbersome for local agencies, which is likely to result in their reduced or discontinued use. This could reduce annual revenues to the State and to local jurisdictions by approximately \$140 million annually.

The bill, by imposing additional restrictions and conditions on the use of red light traffic cameras, would likely lead to increased costs for those entities choosing to use red light cameras, which would reduce the incentives to operate them.

Among other things, the bill would:

- Require a government agency to make and adopt a finding of fact establishing that the red light system is needed at a specific location for reasons related to safety;
- Prohibit a governmental agency proposing to install or operate an automated traffic enforcement system from considering revenue generation as a factor in determining whether or not to install or operate a system;
- Require that specified information from local entities or traffic enforcement system operators be provided to the Judicial Council including the number of violations captured by the system, citations issued before and after installation of the system, citations issued for traveling through the intersection or turning left or right at the intersection, citations dismissed by courts, and comparison of collisions, before and after the installation of the system.
- Specify the information to be included with a notice of violation; and

Analyst/Principal (0744) J. Gregg	Date	Program Budget Manager Mark Hill	Date
--------------------------------------	------	-------------------------------------	------

Department Deputy Director	Date
----------------------------	------

Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

J. Simitian

April 5, 2011

SB 29

- Require that a registered vehicle owner be made aware that the registered owner is not required to provide information regarding the identity of a driver if contacted by a governmental or law enforcement agency prior to issuing a notice to appear.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)								Fund Code
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)								
	CO	PROP								
	RV	98	FC	2010-2011	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013		
1644/Civ Crim Vio	RV	No	U	-\$6,000	U	-\$6,000	U	-\$6,000		0001
1643/PenAssessm	RV	No	U	-\$30,000	U	-\$30,000	U	-\$30,000		0903
1643/PenAssessm	RV	No	U	-\$15,000	U	-\$15,000	U	-\$15,000		0932
1644/Civ Crim Vio	RV	No	U	-\$19,500	U	-\$19,500	U	-\$19,500		0932
1643/PenAssessm	RV	No	U	-\$12,000	U	-\$12,000	U	-\$12,000		3086
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>									
0001	General Fund									
0903	Penalty Fund, State									
0932	Trial Court Trust Fund									
3086	DNA Identification Fund									