
Judiciary Committee

HB 1576

Title: An act relating to dismissal of citations for failure to provide proof of insurance.

Brief Description: Revising provisions relating to dismissal of citations for failure to provide proof of insurance.

Sponsors: Representatives Campbell, Kirby, Newhouse and Moeller.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes a court to assess a \$25 fee for a personal appearance to get a dismissal of a citation for failure to provide proof of insurance.

Hearing Date: 2/14/03

Staff: Bill Perry (786-7123).

Background:

All drivers of cars registered in this state are required to have liability insurance of a specified type and amount. In addition, all drivers are required to carry proof of such insurance in their cars and are required to show that proof upon the request of a law enforcement officer.

Failure to provide proof of insurance is a traffic infraction, punishable by a fine of \$250 dollars
or by community restitution.

If a driver subsequently presents proof that he or she was in fact covered by insurance at the time of the request for proof, the infraction will be dismissed. If the proof is submitted by mail, the court may assess a \$25 administrative fee to cover the cost of the dismissal. However, the driver may also present the proof in person to the court, in which case there is no statutory authorization for an administrative fee.

Summary of Bill:

If a driver appears in person to get a failure to provide proof of insurance citation dismissed,

the court may assess an administrative fee of \$25.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not Requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.