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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR King ORIGINAL DATE 03/10/09  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HM 68  
SHORT TITLE Traffic Violation Citation System Study SB \_\_\_\_\_  
ANALYST Lucero

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		Minimal		Minimal	Nonrecurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received From  
Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 68 requests that a work group be formed to study and evaluate other states' systems of citing drivers for traffic violations and compare the other states' systems with New Mexico's current system. The work group shall propose legislation to remedy the problems that arise from the current system and present proposed legislation to the Legislative Finance Committee and any other appropriate interim Legislative committee.

The work group shall be composed of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) of the Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD), and the Department of Public Safety.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be a minimal administrative cost for the administrative office of the courts to perform the directive of the memorial. All agencies are based in Santa Fe, so the only anticipated cost would be associated with attending local meetings.

### OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

As the memorial states, there are only a handful of states that utilize the traffic stop option for pleading guilty. The public sentiment in New Mexico appears to include dissatisfaction with this system because of the position in which drivers find themselves with the stopping officer. If the vast majority of other states have systems that work more efficiently and easily for both drivers

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and law enforcement, this would seem to compel New Mexico to take a fresh look at its system. Just as importantly, the system does not accommodate a driver who may have a change of mind about pleading guilty or contesting the citation. In many points along the way through the process, this change of mind could result in mistakes related to orders to show cause, warrants and credit for payment of fines. This, again, would seem to compel a comprehensive fresh look at the system to identify potential improvements.

DL/svb