Fiscal Estimate - 2019 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected	Suppleme	ental
LRB Number 19-1006/1	Introduction Number	AB-0017	
Description mandatory period of confinement for homicide by in	ntoxicated use of a vehicle and prov	iding a penalty	
Fiscal Effect			
Appropriations	ase Existing absorb withir	n agency's budg s	
Permissive Mandatory Permiss 2. Decrease Costs 4. Decrease	5.Types of Loca Units Affected Units Affected Towns Se Revenue Sive Mandatory Mandatory		Cities
Fund Sources Affected GPR FED PRO PRS	Affected Ch. 20 SEG SEGS	Appropriation	S
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature		Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives CTS 5/1/2019

LRB Number	19-1006/1	Introduction Number	AB-0017	Estimate Type	Original	
Description						
mandatory period of confinement for homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle and providing a penalty						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill imposes a mandatory minimum period of initial confinement in prison for persons convicted of homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle. Under the bill, persons convicted of this offense must be sentenced to a minimum of five years in prison. The bill also provides that a court may impose a sentence that is less than this minimum if: (1) the death caused was to a person who was a passenger in the vehicle at the time of the violation; (2) the court finds that the best interests of the community will be served and the public will not be harmed; and (3) the court places its reasons on the record.

Under current law, homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle is classified as either a Class C or a Class D felony, depending on whether the person has prior convictions for operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

This bill does not create a new category of crime and will only impact cases already being brought. It also does not create new procedures that would require additional court resources.

Based on statistics compiled by the court system, it is estimated less than 50 cases brought each year would be impacted by this bill draft. In addition, statistics also show more than 90% of felony traffic cases are disposed of by a plea before trial.

If the requirement of mandatory initial confinement in prison results in more parties requesting resolution by trials rather than by pleas, then there could be additional court resources required. It is impossible to predict how frequently that may happen. It is expected that existing court staff would absorb any additional proceedings.

This bill may result in changes to usage of county jails. Offenders would be assigned to the state prison system because the period of confinement would be greater than one year. This bill may result in persons spending less time in county jails because that sentencing option would no longer be available. An accurate estimate of the change in costs is impossible with the data available.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications