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SFA

BILL ANALYSIS

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Senate Bills 811 and 812 (as reported without amendment)
Sponsor: Senator Bill Bullard, Jr.
Committee: Transportation and Tourism

CONTENT

Senate Bills 811 and 812 would amend Public Acts 205 of 1941 and 368 of 1925, respectively, to allow the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) to enter into agreements authorizing the use of limited access highway property for devices providing electronic travel-related information services to subscribers, motorists, or MDOT. Both bills would require all revenue generated by these agreements to be deposited in the State Trunk Line Fund, and would allow MDOT to accept facilities or in-kind services to be used for public purposes in lieu of, or in addition to, monetary compensation.

Senate Bill 811

Public Act 205 of 1941 provides for the construction, improvement, and maintenance of limited access highways. Currently, MDOT may provide, at selected sites on limited access highways, only vending machines that dispense food, drink, and other appropriate articles. The bill would allow MDOT to enter into agreements authorizing property acquired for or designated as a limited access highway, or for ancillary purposes, to be used for the installation, operation, and maintenance of commercial or noncommercial electronic devices and related structures as long as they were intended to assist in providing travel-related information.

Senate Bill 812

Public Act 368 of 1925 prescribes the conditions under which public utility companies may construct lines across public roads. The bill states that Public Act 368 would not prohibit the use of rights-of-way, bridges, towers, welcome centers, and rest stops to provide, through the use of electronic technologies, including electronic kiosks, travel-related information. Under the bill, a person engaged in the collection of traffic data could construct and maintain electronic devices within limited access and other highway rights-of-way according to standards approved by the State Transportation Commission.

MCL 252.52 (S.B. 811)
247.183 et al. (S.B. 812)

Legislative Analyst: C. Layman

FISCAL IMPACT

The bills would result in an increase of State revenue deposited in the State Trunkline Fund associated with the provision that would allow MDOT to enter into agreements for the installation, operation, and maintenance of commercial or noncommercial electronic devices and related structures for the provision of travel-related information to motorists. The bill also would allow MDOT to receive in-kind contributions in addition to monetary compensation. There are no data currently available to indicate how much revenue would be generated from these agreements.

Date Completed: 11-9-01

Fiscal Analyst: C. Thiel

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Analysis available @ <http://www.michiganlegislature.org>

This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.