

Fiscal Analysis

FINES FOR ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS



Bill/Sponsor	HOUSE BILL 4855 as introduced , Rep. Van Regenmorter HOUSE BILL 4856 as introduced , Rep. John P. Stakoe HOUSE BILL 4857 as introduced , Rep. Andrew E. Meisner HOUSE BILL 4858 as introduced , Rep. Paul Condino HOUSE BILL 4859 as introduced , Rep. Edward J. Gaffney
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House Committee	Criminal Justice
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Analysis	Summary Various acts establishing the powers of local government authorize ordinance violation penalties of imprisonment for up to 93 days and fines of up to \$500. The bills would replace language authorizing \$500 fines for the 93-day ordinances with language authorizing fines consistent with state law. Maximum allowable fines for 90-day ordinances would remain \$500.
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Fiscal Impact

The bills would have no fiscal impact on the state and an indeterminate impact on local units of government. To the extent that there are 93-day misdemeanors that are prosecuted as ordinance violations and punished with fines that would exceed \$500 but for the limit, the bills would increase local revenues. More pertinently, if drunk driving fines are increased substantially as anticipated under HB 4247 (currently before the Senate), the bills also could forestall a shift of prosecution for such offenses from municipal attorneys (prosecuting ordinance violations) to local prosecutors (prosecuting violations of state law), with corresponding impacts on workloads and costs.

Analyst(s)

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FLOOR ANALYSIS - 6/26/03

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