BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: HB1891
Version: Introduced
Request Number: 6059
Author: Rep. Cantrell
Date: 2/10/2023
Impact: Minimal

Research Analysis

HB 1891 allows any peace officer to issue a traffic citation for littering near a highway or county road or the occupied dwelling of another. The citation amount is to be not less than \$200 nor more than \$500 not including court costs. Half of the fines collected is to be paid into the reward fund and half is to be paid into the sheriff's service fee account to be used to enforce littering law. The measure authorizes the court, in lieu of a fine, to assess payment into the reward fund for criminal violations of environmental statutes. The assessment may not exceed the maximum possible criminal fine. The measure allows the identity of the individual who reports violations to remain anonymous.

Prepared By: Brad Wolgamott

Fiscal Analysis

HB1891 makes certain changes to various littering statutes. It also requires that county commissioners or the governing body of a municipality create and maintain a reward fund to pay rewards for tips that lead to convictions of those who violate certain statutes. Most of the changes in this measure affect counties and cities, not the state, so there should be no fiscal impact from those changes. Additionally, there may be some increase in violations of the statutes due to the changes leading to more court cases, but those increases are likely to be minimal and not create a fiscal impact for the state. Therefore, any impact to state revenues or funds would be minimal.

Prepared By: Mariah Searock, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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