

FINAL BILL REPORT

HB 1576

C 221 L 03

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Revising provisions relating to dismissal of citations for failure to provide proof of insurance.

Sponsors: By Representatives Campbell, Kirby, Newhouse and Moeller.

House Committee on Judiciary

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Background:

All drivers of cars registered in this state are required to have liability insurance, or show other financial coverage, of a specified type and amount. In addition, all drivers are required to carry proof of such financial responsibility in their cars and are required to show that proof upon the request of a law enforcement officer.

Failure to provide proof of insurance is a traffic infraction, punishable by a fine of \$250 or by community restitution.

If a driver subsequently presents proof that he or she was in fact covered by insurance at the time of the request for proof, the infraction will be dismissed. If the proof is submitted by mail, the court may assess a \$25 administrative fee to cover the cost of the dismissal. However, the driver may also present the proof in person to the court, in which case there is no statutory authorization for an administrative fee.

Summary:

If a driver appears in person to get a failure to provide proof of insurance citation dismissed, the court may assess an administrative fee of \$25.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 84 10

Senate 49 0

Effective: July 27, 2003