

TRANSPORTATION - LOCAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

Grant Program for Traffic Marking Enhancements for Elderly Drivers and Pedestrians

Motion:

Move to require DOT to administer a grant program in 2003-04 to provide grants to local governments for the installation of traffic marking enhancements with the intent of improving visibility for elderly drivers and pedestrians, if the state receives federal incentive grant funding in federal fiscal year 2003 provided under the federal Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) for having a 0.08 blood alcohol level intoxicated driving law. Specify that if the state receives this funding that DOT shall credit an amount equal to the amount of the incentive grant, or \$2,200,000, whichever is less, to the state highway rehabilitation program FED appropriation and shall transfer an equal amount from the SEG appropriation for state highway rehabilitation to a newly-created, PR-S appropriation for making grants under the program. Require DOT to administer the program in 2004-05 if the state receives more federal formula highway aid than is included in the Department's FED appropriations that receive federal formula highway aid. Specify that the additional amount, up to \$3,800,000 FED, be credited to the state highway rehabilitation program and that an equal amount be transferred to the PR-S appropriation for making the grants from the SEG appropriation for state highway rehabilitation. Increase funding in the state highway rehabilitation appropriation by \$2,200,000 FED in 2003-04 to reflect an estimate of the amount of 0.08 incentive funds received and provide \$2,200,000 PR-S in 2003-04 to reflect a transfer of funds to this program.

Specify that such enhancements may include, but are not limited to, pavement markings for center lines, lane lines, edge lines, lane-use arrows, and cross walks that are brighter or more reflective than are typically used, traffic signs (for street names and other directional information) with enhanced reflectivity and with larger letters than is typical, and redundant street name signs in advance of intersections and overhead mounted street name signs at major intersections. Require the Department to annually award grants under the program to projects in: (a) an urban area; (b) a suburban area; and (c) a rural area. Require local sponsors to pay at least 25 in matching funds to receive a state grant.

Require the Department, in awarding grants to: (a) consider the crash history of the proposed project area; (b) consider the prevalence of older drivers and pedestrians in the area of the proposed project; (c) consider the extent to which the proposed improvements would produce demonstrable benefits; (d) consider favorably projects that are submitted cooperatively by more than one local government and that coordinate improvements on highways under their respective jurisdictions; and (e) award projects to distribute projects in all areas of the state.

Note:

This motion would require the Department to administer a program for making grants to local governments for the installation of traffic marking enhancements to improve the visibility of the markings for elderly drivers and pedestrians if, in 2003-04, the state receives federal incentive grant funds for having a 0.08 law in federal fiscal year 2003 and, in 2004-05, if the amount of federal formula highway aid received by the state exceeds the estimates of such aid included in the bill. The maximum amount that could be provided for this program would be \$2,200,000 in 2003-04 and \$3,800,000 in 2004-05. Local project sponsors would be required to pay a 25 match on the projects. If the conditions for making the grants apply, federal funding would be provided in the state highway rehabilitation program and an equal amount of SEG funding would be transferred to the program appropriation (designated as PR-S).

In order to receive federal 0.08 incentive grant funds in federal fiscal year 2003, the state must have a law enacted by July 15, 2003, that takes effect prior to October 1, 2003. The provision in the Governor's bill that would establish a 0.08 prohibited alcohol concentration would take effect on September 30, 2003, and, therefore, would allow the state to receive an incentive grant if the provision is approved by the Legislature and is signed by the Governor prior to July 15. Under the motion, \$2,200,000 FED would be reflected as an estimate of incentive grants to be received and \$2,200,000 PR-S would be provided to reflect a transfer of funds to the grant appropriation.

[Change to Bill: \$2,200,000 FED and \$2,200,000 PR-S]