

FISCAL NOTE

August 23, 2017

Bill No:	SB 564	Printer's No:	610	Sponsor:	Yaw (R)
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COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2017-18	2018-19
Motor License Fund	See "FISCAL IMPACT"	\$2,147,000

SUMMARY: This bill would establish the Bridge Fencing Safety Act to provide for the installation of pedestrian fencing on certain state-owned bridges by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 564 would require DOT to build pedestrian fencing when a bridge is built with a sidewalk or a concrete barrier is installed, modified or rehabilitated on a bridge with a sidewalk over an interstate or other limited access highway. This would not apply if a pedestrian barrier is already required on the bridge, the fencing would obstruct scenic views of the area, or the local government where the bridge is located decides otherwise pursuant to this act. Additionally, as part of its preliminary design process, DOT would be required to consider installation of pedestrian fencing when a bridge is built without a sidewalk or a concrete barrier is installed, modified or rehabilitated over an interstate and over limited or unlimited access highways. If upon consideration DOT determines that pedestrian fencing is necessary, the fencing must be placed at all of the following locations:

- On an overpass near a school, playground or other site where it would be expected that the overpass would be frequently used by children.
- On an overpass in an urban area used exclusively by pedestrians and not easily kept under surveillance by police.
- On an overpass with a sidewalk, where experience relating to nearby structures indicates a need for pedestrian fencing.
- On an overpass where there have been incidents of objects being dropped or thrown from the overpass and where increased surveillance, warning signs or apprehension of offenders has not effectively alleviated the problem.

This act would be effective immediately.

FISCAL IMPACT: DOT currently has a policy in place requiring protective fencing for interstate and other limited access highways. There are approximately 2,360 bridges without fencing that would need protective fencing. DOT would incur a cost of approximately \$3.5 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 to install protective fencing pursuant to this act. The installation costs are budgeted. In FY 2018-19, DOT would incur \$2.1 million in installation costs.