



February 8, 2023

**SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (003699):** Creates the *Sergeant Chris Jenkins Law*. Creates a Class C misdemeanor offense for a person to operate a motor vehicle on a public roadway while transporting a ladder on the vehicle or in an open bed or trailer that is not firmly secured by adequate means to prevent the ladder from falling onto the roadway. Requires a ladder transported on a public roadway to be secured with lateral straps affixed at each end of the ladder. Enhances the offense to a Class A misdemeanor if an improperly secured ladder causes or contributes to a motor vehicle accident.

**FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- It is assumed that persons convicted of a Class C misdemeanor will not serve any time in jail. Therefore, any increase in local expenditures related to incarceration as a result of violations any new Class C misdemeanor offenses are estimated to be not significant.
- Based on the Fiscal Review Committee's 2008 study and the Administrative Office of the Courts' 2012 study on collection of court costs, fees, and fines, collection in criminal cases is minimal due to defendants often not being able to pay them; therefore, any increase in local revenue from fines is estimated to be not significant.
- In the event a ladder that was improperly secured falls out onto a roadway and causes or contributes to an accident, it is assumed that the person responsible would currently be charged under Tenn. Code Ann. § 55-10-101 for an accident involving death or personal injury, if the accident resulted in such, or otherwise for reckless endangerment under Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-103. The penalty for offenses under both of these sections is, at minimum, a Class A misdemeanor. Therefore, any increase in local expenditures related to incarceration as a result of violations of the new Class A misdemeanor offense is estimated to be not significant, as is any increase in local revenue related to fines for violations of the offense.
- Any fiscal impact to local government is estimated to be not significant.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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