

## **Department of Planning and Budget 2024 Session Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** HB959S1

**House of Origin**     Introduced       Substitute       Engrossed  
**Second House**     In Committee     Substitute       Enrolled

**2. Patron:**      Lopez

**3. Committee:** Finance and Appropriations

**4. Title:**          Towing violations; enforcement.

**5. Summary:** Provides that any local ordinance may regulate the monitoring practices that may be used by such towing and recovery operators. Currently it is a \$150 civil penalty for tow truck drivers and towing and recovery operators to remove a vehicle without the consent of its owner from a location in Planning District 8 and the revenues are deposited to the Literary Fund.

The substitute amends the civil penalty for any tow truck driver who conducts improper towing to be subject to a fine worth 10 times the total amount charged by such tow truck driver or towing and recovery operator for such improper removal, towing, and storage. Such penalty will be collected by the Office of the Attorney General, and the proceeds will be paid to the victim of such unlawful towing.

The substitute also amends and reenacts Chapter 323 of the 2023 Acts of Assembly to expire on July 1, 2025.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary, see Item 8 below.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** According to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), there is no anticipated fiscal impact on the agency's operations. The fiscal impact to the Literary Fund is unknown at this time.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Localities, Office of the Attorney General.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** None.