



DOAA

Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

February 16, 2022

Honorable John Albers
Chairman, Senate Public Safety Committee
421-C State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

SUBJECT: Revised Fiscal Note
Senate Bill (LC 39 3208)

Dear Chairman Albers:

This fiscal note replaces LC 39 3208 dated February 10, 2022. Additional data from the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council indicated that the number of employed peace officers is higher than reported in the original fiscal note. We also revised the estimate for the number of retired officers. The resulting change in the estimate is minimal.

This bill would add active and retired peace officers to a standing statute that waives the cost of issuance, expiration, and renewal of drivers' licenses for veterans, honorary, or distinctive licenses. The term 'peace officer' includes police officers, correctional officers, administrative investigators, and all others outlined in O.C.G.A § 47-17-1.

Impact on State Revenue

According to the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, there were 60,958 employed peace officers on January 1, 2022. While the number of peace officers who have retired since 1970 is 22,986, it is reasonable to assume that a significant portion of these retired officers are deceased, no longer driving, or no longer residing in Georgia. For the purposes of this analysis, we will assume that approximately one-half, or 11,500, are present in Georgia and in possession of a driver's license.

Based on \$32 for an eight-year license, the bill is estimated to reduce revenue by \$2.3 million over an eight-year period. This equates to approximately \$290,000 per year. Table 1 provides details of this analysis.

Table 1. Estimated Revenue Loss of LC 39 3208

	Revenue Impact
Number of Peace Officers	72,458
Cost Per Officer for Renewal ¹	\$32
Total Revenue Impact	\$2,318,656
Estimated Revenue Impact Per Fiscal Year²	\$289,832

¹ While online renewals are available for \$27, this calculation assumes the highest cost impact of all in-person renewals.

² Because DDS is unable to identify peace officers in its system, it is unable to determine when individuals will apply for the waiver. For that reason, it is not possible to predict the impact for a particular fiscal year.

Impact on State Expenditures

The Department of Driver Services (DDS) would incur one-time costs for system adjustments to account for the changes in the fee waiver of approximately \$90,000. The amount includes roughly \$85,000 for vendors that would make IT programming changes and changes to the actual cards. Another \$5,000 would be needed for internal testing and training. Details of this estimate are included in Table 2.

Table 2. Estimated Short-Term Expenditure Effects of LC 39 3208

	<u>One-Time Costs</u>
DRIVES System Vendor	
Design, Development, and Implementation of financial and issuances interfaces	\$46,400
Card Production Vendor	\$37,500
New marker identification creation by Thales	
Testing and Training	
Internal testing and development/delivery of training materials	<u>\$5,200</u>
Total	<u>\$89,100</u>

Respectfully,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor



Kelly Farr, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

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