



March 3, 2026

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

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
Senate Bill 473 (LC 39 4902)

Dear Chairman Albers:

The bill would amend aspects of the DUI Alcohol or Drug Use Risk Reduction Programs. It would change fee amounts for program participation and associated defensive driving courses. The bill would also remove a \$30 administration fee paid by certified programs and retained by the Department of Driver Services (DDS). The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) and DDS manage the programs and share oversight and administration responsibilities.

Under the previous provisions of the bill, DDS and DBHDD retained and split the \$30 administration fee (revenue above a set level is remitted to the state treasury). The fee revenues from the \$30 administration fee from fiscal years 2023-2025 are shown in **Table 1** below. The bill would eliminate the fee revenues for both DDS and DBHDD.

Table 1. DUI Risk Reduction Administrative Fee Revenue

Fiscal Year	Fee Revenue to DDS	Fee Revenue to DBHDD
2023	\$475,083	\$475,083
2024	\$509,370	\$509,370
2025	<u>\$563,835¹</u>	<u>\$563,835</u>
Total	\$1,548,288	\$1,548,288

¹Any fee revenues more than \$515,075 collected by DDS are returned to the state treasury.

The bill would not change the service responsibilities of DDS and DBHDD. However, the loss of the fee revenue would result in fewer staff without additional state funding. The funding reductions and resulting staffing changes are described below:

- Department of Driver Services – The DDS program has a staff of 17 positions and a budget of \$1.0 million in state funds and \$515,075 in fee revenue. According to DDS, the loss of the fee revenue would result in the program being reduced by seven positions.

- Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities – The DBHDD program has five full-time and one part-time staff and a budget of \$235,000 in state funds, with an additional \$563,835 available in fee revenue. According to DBHDD, the loss of the fee revenue would result in the program being reduced by four positions.

Respectfully,



Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor



Richard Dunn, Director
Office of Planning and Budget

GSG/RD/mef