

Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII

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DATE: February 18, 2015

TO: Senate Judiciary Committee

FROM: Teresa Douglas, Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist

Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 397

Introduction:

Senate Bill 397 increases screening fee from \$150 to \$275 to cover costs of additional Ignition Interlock Device monitoring responsibilities for Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialists.

Background:

The requirement for Ignition Interlock Devices was added to the Diversion program in the 2011 Legislative session. The additional responsibilities placed on the Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist to obtain Ignition Interlock Device reports, monitor compliance and report to the Courts have created additional operating costs.

What the Bill Does:

Each jurisdiction has agreements with the Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist as to how DUII Diversion and Conviction cases are to be handled. This bill will insure that the Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist is compensated for the additional workload responsibilities.

Summary:

The screening procedure is required on all DUII offenders, either through a Diversion agreement or a Conviction. While Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialists are required to monitor all Diversion clients, they also monitor DUII convictions that are not placed on supervised probation. The Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist is the conduit through which information flows between the courts, the Ignition Interlock Device provider, the offender and the treatment provider. The Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist is able to provide valuable information to all parties involved.

As an Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist, I have been monitoring the Ignition Interlock Device on my clients since the requirement went into effect. I have personally seen the benefits of the Ignition Interlock Device and whole heartedly support the use of Ignition Interlock Devices. I have also experienced the increase in my workload and the staff time that is needed to perform this function properly. Therefore, on behalf of the Governor's Advisory Committee on DUII and as a Alcohol and Drug Evaluation Specialist, I would ask that this legislation be passed to the floor with a do pass recommendation.