

HB 552 -- Revenue from Traffic Violations

Sponsor: Conway (104)

Currently, if a city, town, or village receives more than 35% of its annual general operating revenue from traffic fines and court costs for traffic violations occurring on state highways within its jurisdiction, all revenues in excess of the 35% threshold must be sent to the Department of Revenue to be distributed annually to the schools of the county in the same manner as other penalty proceeds are distributed.

This bill expands this requirement to include a county, reduces the threshold to more than 20%, expands the revenue source to include fines and costs for charges amended from any traffic violation, removes the provision that the traffic violation revenue limitation only applies to violations occurring on state highways, and specifies that traffic violations will include violations that are detected through the use of an automated traffic enforcement system.

The political subdivision must include an accounting of the percent of annual general operating revenue from fines and court costs for traffic violations, including charges amended from traffic violations, within the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report that it submits to the State Auditor. Any city, town, village, or county that fails to make an accurate or timely report or fails to send in excess revenues from traffic violations to the Director of the Department of Revenue must immediately lose jurisdiction on all traffic-related charges until it meets all of these requirements.