Department of Planning and Budget
2025 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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Bill Number: SB750 **Patron:** Diggs
Bill Title: Vehicle operation; unlicensed minor; penalty.

Bill Summary: This bill prohibits any person from knowingly authorizing the operation of a motor vehicle by a minor who such person knows has no operator's license or who has a learner's permit but who such person knows would operate such motor vehicle in violation of certain limitations on operating a motor vehicle with a learner's permit. Existing law prohibits any person from knowingly authorizing the operation of a motor vehicle by any person who the authorizing person know (i) has had his operator's license or permit suspended or revoked or (ii) has no operator's license or permit and has been previously convicted of driving without a license.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No. **Items Impacted:** N/A

Explanation: Indeterminate impact from expansion of Class 1 misdemeanor. This legislation is not anticipated to generate a fiscal impact for the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Fiscal Summary: This bill expands the scope of an existing Class 1 misdemeanor, which may have an indeterminate fiscal impact to the state as explained below. The Department of Motor Vehicles will implement this bill utilizing existing staff and resources.

Fiscal Analysis: Current Code establishes penalties for individuals who knowingly allow their motor vehicles to be driven by a person whose license has been suspended or revoked for certain offenses, or who has been convicted of driving without a license. This bill would expand the scope of an existing Class 1 misdemeanor by adding a provision explicitly prohibiting an individual from knowingly allowing a minor to operate a motor vehicle if the minor does not have an operator's license or only has a learner's permit and would be driving in violation of the restrictions.

Anyone convicted of a Class 1 misdemeanor is subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail and a fine of not more than $2,500, either or both.

There is not enough information available to reliably estimate the increase in jail population as a result of this proposal. However, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth currently pays localities $5.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local-responsible prisoner held in a jail. It also funds a large portion of the jails' operating costs, e.g., correctional officers. The state's share of these costs on a per prisoner, per day basis varies from locality to locality. However, according to the Compensation Board's most recent Jail Cost Report (November 2024), the estimated total state support for local jails averaged $56.38 per inmate, per day in FY 2023.

Other: This bill is a companion to HB 1549**.**