

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1596
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 10, 2015

Authors: Hornstein

Subject: Minimum fine for wireless communication device use while driving

Analyst: Matt Burress

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd/.

This bill sets a statutory minimum fine for second and subsequent violations of the prohibition on using a wireless communications device (such as texting on a cell phone) while driving. It sets the minimum amount as \$50 in addition to any amount set by the courts in its schedule for fines for various violations that can be paid without a court appearance.

Under the current fine schedule, the change would increase the base fine (that is, apart from the court surcharge and any law library or local fees) from \$50 to \$100 for second and subsequent offenses.