

would make in the financial responsibility laws for motor vehicle operators. Under this Bill, the Department of Motor Vehicles is required to suspend the license of every driver convicted of *any* moving violation unless within ten days after conviction he furnishes satisfactory evidence of financial responsibility. Since the Department receives approximately 35,000 conviction notices a month, of which 5,000 are for out-of-state convictions, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles advises it would be impossible to comply with this law without considerable additional personnel and probably additional space, and there are no funds available in the Department's budget to cover the increased costs which would be imposed upon it. Furthermore, most of the notices are not received within ten days after conviction, and literal compliance by the Department with the requirements of the Bill would be impossible.

It is my suggestion that the matter be considered by the Legislative Council with a view to determining the costs involved in the proposed system as compared with the number of uninsured drivers in the State, and a thorough review made of the general advisability of such a bill. Since it involves such a drastic change in the financial responsibility laws of the State, all phases of the matter should be carefully explored in reaching a final decision.

Insofar as the Bill deals with minors involved in motor vehicle violations, it is a duplication of Senate Bill 13, which I have previously signed, and is, therefore, unnecessary. Your attention is also called to House Bill 9 which I have previously signed, and which substantially extends the field of required coverage in two respects. First, drivers convicted of serious violations requiring suspension or revocation of a license will have to furnish evidence of financial responsibility on a continuing basis rather than for three years only. Secondly, drivers whose licenses are suspended for failure to comply with the financial responsibility laws of this State must not only arrange to dispose of the claim against them; but must also furnish evidence of financial responsibility for the future before a license can be re-issued. The Commissioner advises that this change will seriously tax his facilities for handling financial responsibility matters, and any additional burden, as indicated above, will, of necessity, require substantial additional expenditures.

Yours very truly,

(s) THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,

Governor