

---

Senate Fiscal Agency  
P. O. Box 30036  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

**SFA****BILL ANALYSIS**

Telephone: (517) 373-5383  
Fax: (517) 373-1986  
TDD: (517) 373-0543

---

Senate Bill 275 (Substitute S-1 as reported)  
Sponsor: Senator Joe Young, Jr.  
Committee: Judiciary

### **CONTENT**

The bill would amend the Michigan Penal Code to add penalties for assault or battery causing physical injury to a driver of a public transit vehicle. "Public transit vehicle" would mean a publicly or privately owned vehicle used to provide transportation services to the general public without charge or for a fee.

Under the bill, it would be a felony punishable by up to four years' imprisonment, a maximum fine of \$2,500, or both, for a person to assault or batter another person and cause physical injury to that person, if the victim were assaulted or battered while he or she operated a public transit vehicle or was otherwise engaged in his or her duties as the operator of a public transit vehicle.

The bill would take effect 90 days after its enactment.

(Under the Penal Code, aggravated assault (i.e, unarmed assault inflicting serious or aggravated injury) is a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year's imprisonment and/or a maximum fine of \$1,000, and enhanced penalties of up to two years' imprisonment and/or a maximum fine of \$2,500 apply if the violation is domestic assault and the offender has one or more previous convictions for domestic assault (MCL 750.81a).)

Proposed MCL 750.81c

Legislative Analyst: P. Affholter

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on State and local government.

There are no data to indicate how many people could be convicted of assaulting a public transit worker. The offense would be a Class F felony for which the range of minimum sentences is 0-3 months to 17-30 months, so an offender could receive an intermediate sanction or a prison term.

Assuming that five offenders a year were convicted of this new offense, and that they were given the highest minimum sentence, annual costs for incarceration for this crime, based on the average yearly cost of \$22,000 to incarcerate, would be \$275,000.

Date Completed: 10-1-99

Fiscal Analyst: K. Firestone