
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 1650 (Caloza) - Rental vehicles: law enforcement

Version: June 15, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 3, 2026

Policy Vote: JUD. 11 - 2, PUB. S. 5 - 1

Mandate: No

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: AB 1650 would require any privately owned vehicle rented by, or furnished to, any federal, state or local law enforcement agency for use detaining, arresting, or transporting persons who have violated or are suspected of violating any law, to display a temporary decal displaying the agency name and logo.

Fiscal Impact: Up to \$1.4 million in FY 2025-27 and up to \$2.5 million annually to investigate and pursue civil action against the entity renting vehicle from the private owner for failure to comply with the display requirements of the bill.

Unknown, potentially significant costs to the courts to adjudicate new penalties depending on many unknowns, including the numbers of people charged and the factors unique to each case. An eight-hour court day costs approximately \$10,500 based on the hourly rate of court personnel including at minimum the judge, clerk, bailiff, court reporter, jury administrator, administrative staff, and jury per-diems. While the courts are not funded on a workload basis, an increase in workload could result in delayed court services and would put pressure on the General Fund to fund additional staff and resources. The FY 2026-27 Budget appropriated \$70 million General Fund for this purpose (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund).

Proposed Law: A failure to display a decal with the agency name and logo in accordance with this section shall subject the entity renting the vehicle from the private owner to liability that shall be enforced by a civil action, brought in the name of the people of California by the Attorney General, a district attorney, county counsel, or a city attorney, who may seek injunctive or declaratory relief.

A prevailing plaintiff in an action shall be entitled to all reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

The indicia or name of the governmental entity operating the vehicle shall be displayed in sharp contrast to the background on the front door panels and shall be of such size, shape, and color as to be readily legible during daylight hours from a distance of 50 feet. The governmental entity shall create and affix the temporary decal to the vehicle.

The bill provides an exemption from the posting requirements for vehicles used by federal, state and local law enforcement for specified purposes.

The terms and conditions of the rental car contract shall specify that compliance with state law is mandatory. The contract may include a term requiring the law enforcement agency to indemnify the owner of the private vehicle.