
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2015 (Wicks) - Department of Transportation: third-party navigation applications: study and report

Version: April 14, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 13, 2026

Policy Vote: TRANS. 9 - 3

Mandate: No

Consultant: Mark McKenzie

Bill Summary: AB 2015 would require the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to conduct a comprehensive study on the impact of third-party navigation applications (apps) on the state highway system and local streets and roads, and report recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 2028.

******* ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *******

**The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 13, 2026**

Fiscal Impact:

- Caltrans estimates one-time costs of approximately \$3.9 million (State Highway Account) to complete the pilot study and report to the Legislature by January 1, 2029, including \$2.5 million for a consultant contract and approximately \$693,000 annually for two years for 4.0 PY (limited term) to oversee the consultant contract, coordinate with state and local partners, manage procurement and public outreach, develop supporting data capabilities, review technical work products, and prepare the final report. The consultant would develop specialized methodologies, analytical tools, and evaluation framework necessary to assess the impacts of traffic diversion caused by third-party navigation apps.
- The California Transportation Agency (CalSTA) indicates that any costs to consult with Caltrans for the study and report would be minor and absorbable. (State Highway Account)

Author Amendments:

- Require Caltrans to consult with regional authorities, in addition to CalSTA and local authorities, when conducting the study.
- Limit the study to a pilot in a region or area of the state, as determined by Caltrans, rather than requiring a comprehensive study.
- Delay the deadline for Caltrans to submit a report to the Legislature to January 1, 2029.

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