

Introduced by Senator Calderon

February 22, 2012

An act to add Section 23151 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1203, as amended, Calderon. Vehicles: driving under the influence: reward for reporting.

Existing law prohibits any person who is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug, or under the combined influence of any alcoholic beverage and drug, from driving a vehicle, or any person who has 0.08% or more, by weight, of alcohol in his or her blood from driving a vehicle.

This bill would establish a reward of \$100 for a person who reports a drunk driver upon conviction of the driver. The bill would require the court to order the offender to pay the reward *and would require that the identity of that person not be disclosed to the driver or any other person unless required by law and then only upon a determination by the court that the disclosure is constitutionally required.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. *The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
- 2 *following:*
- 3 (a) *One person is killed every half hour due to drunk driving.*

1 (b) Each year approximately 16,000 persons are killed in
2 alcohol-related crashes.

3 (c) Alcohol is a factor in almost one-half of all traffic fatalities.

4 (d) Every other minute a person is seriously injured in an
5 alcohol-related crash.

6 (e) The reporting of drunk drivers is of the highest importance
7 in reducing the number of deaths and injuries that result from
8 alcohol-related crashes.

9 (f) Every person should be encouraged to report drunk drivers
10 to law enforcement agencies as a community response to the
11 dangers of drinking and driving.

12 (g) In order to encourage people to report drunk drivers and
13 thereby reduce the harm caused by drunk drivers on the road, the
14 Legislature finds that it is necessary to reward a person who
15 reports a drunk driver who is as a result subsequently convicted
16 of a drunk driving offense.

17 (h) The Legislature also finds that it is necessary to protect, to
18 the greatest extent possible, the identity of the 911 caller who
19 receives a reward from any possible retaliation or threats of harm
20 for having reported a drunk driver to a law enforcement agency.

21 **SECTION 1.**

22 **SEC. 2.** Section 23151 is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:

23 23151. ~~A-(a) The person who reports a driver who is later~~
24 ~~convicted of a violation of Section 23152 or 23153—and~~
25 ~~appropriately identifies himself or herself for purposes of the law~~
26 ~~enforcement investigation leading to the offender's conviction~~
27 shall, upon conviction of the offender, receive a reward of one
28 hundred dollars (\$100). The court shall order that the driver pay
29 the reward in addition to any other penalty imposed by law for a
30 violation of Section 23152 or 23153.

31 (b) The identity of the person who reported a driver pursuant
32 to subdivision (a) shall not be disclosed to the driver or any other
33 person unless required by law and then only upon a determination
34 by the court that the disclosure is constitutionally required.