

SUBJECT:	Revising civil penalties for certain signs placed near a public road
COMMITTEE:	Transportation — favorable, without amendment
VOTE:	8 ayes — Canales, Ashby, Davis, Gámez, Landgraf, Lozano, Lujan, Romero 2 nays — Caroline Harris, Patterson 3 absent — Raney, Ordaz, Perez
SENATE VOTE:	On final passage (March 29) — 24 - 7
WITNESSES:	None (<i>considered in a formal meeting on May 11</i>)
BACKGROUND:	Concerns have been raised that illegal signs continue to be posted in some neighborhoods and communities.
DIGEST:	<p>SB 190 would apply civil penalties applicable to a person who placed or commissioned a sign on the right-of-way of a public road without authorization to a person whose commercial advertisement was placed on the sign. The amount of a civil penalty would be changed from a range of \$500 to \$1,000 depending on the seriousness of the violation to a maximum of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$1,000 for a first violation;• \$2,500 for a second violation; and• \$5,000 for a third violation or subsequent violation. <p>The bill would remove provisions allowing for a separate penalty to be collected each day for continuous violations.</p> <p>The bill would take effect September 1, 2023, and would apply only to a violation that occurred on or after the effective date.</p>