

HB 58 -- TRAFFIC OFFENSES

SPONSOR: Walton Gray

This bill specifies that if the court finds that a defendant is indigent or is without sufficient disposable income to pay restitution, court costs, fees, expenses, or fines over a one-year period and upon motion of the defendant, the court of jurisdiction must consider sentencing the defendant to perform community service under conditions as may be established by the court in lieu of paying restitution, court costs, fees, expenses, or fines for all traffic offenses deemed infractions or class C misdemeanors of any ordinance or political subdivision of this state. If a person is not indigent, the court of jurisdiction may offer community service in lieu of a fine for the offenses. However, the defendant must be responsible for paying all court costs, fees, and expenses. Once a defendant is sentenced to perform community service in lieu of paying a fine under these provisions, he or she must be ineligible for a community service sentence for future traffic offenses within the same jurisdiction within the 12-month period following the date of the offense for which community service was ordered.