HB 0065 2004 A bill to be entitled

1

2

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12 13

14

15

16 17

18

19

An act relating to highway safety; amending s. 316.075, F.S.; requiring hearing for specified violations of traffic control signal devices resulting in a crash; amending s. 318.14, F.S.; providing penalties for certain traffic infractions requiring a mandatory hearing; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; providing penalty for specified violation of traffic control signal devices; providing for distribution of moneys collected; amending s. 318.19, F.S.; requiring hearing for certain violations resulting in a crash; amending s. 318.21, F.S.; providing for distribution of specified civil penalties by county courts; amending s. 322.0261, F.S.; requiring driver improvement course for a second violation of specified provisions within a specified time period; providing penalty for failure to complete said course within a specified time period; amending s. 322.27, F.S.; assigning point value for conviction of specified violation of traffic control signal device; providing an effective date.

20 21

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

23 24

22

Subsection (4) of section 316.075, Florida Section 1. Statutes, is amended to read:

25 26

316.075 Traffic control signal devices.--

27 28

29

Except for automatic warning signal lights installed or to be installed at railroad crossings, whenever traffic,

including municipal traffic, is controlled by traffic control

Page 1 of 10

signals exhibiting different colored lights, or colored lighted arrows, successively one at a time or in combination, only the colors green, red, and yellow shall be used, except for special pedestrian signals carrying a word legend, and the lights shall indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

(a) Green indication. --

- 1. Vehicular traffic facing a circular green signal may proceed cautiously straight through or turn right or left unless a sign at such place prohibits either such turn. But vehicular traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time such signal is exhibited.
- 2. Vehicular traffic facing a green arrow signal, shown alone or in combination with another indication, as directed by the manual, may cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by such arrow, or such other movement as is permitted by other indications shown at the same time, except the driver of any vehicle may U-turn, so as to proceed in the opposite direction unless such movement is prohibited by posted traffic control signs. Such vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.
- 3. Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in s. 316.0755, pedestrians facing any green signal, except when the sole green signal is a turn arrow, may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked crosswalk.

(b) Steady yellow indication. --

- 1. Vehicular traffic facing a steady yellow signal is thereby warned that the related green movement is being terminated or that a red indication will be exhibited immediately thereafter when vehicular traffic shall not enter the intersection.
- 2. Pedestrians facing a steady yellow signal, unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in s. 316.0755, are thereby advised that there is insufficient time to cross the roadway before a red indication is shown and no pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway.
 - (c) Steady red indication. --
- 1. Vehicular traffic facing a steady red signal shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection and shall remain standing until a green indication is shown; however:
- a. The driver of a vehicle which is stopped at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering the intersection in obedience to a steady red signal may make a right turn, but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic proceeding as directed by the signal at the intersection, except that municipal and county authorities may prohibit any such right turn against a steady red signal at any intersection, which prohibition shall be effective when a sign

giving notice thereof is erected in a location visible to traffic approaching the intersection.

- b. The driver of a vehicle on a one-way street that intersects another one-way street on which traffic moves to the left shall stop in obedience to a steady red signal, but may then make a left turn into the one-way street, but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic proceeding as directed by the signal at the intersection, except that municipal and county authorities may prohibit any such left turn as described, which prohibition shall be effective when a sign giving notice thereof is attached to the traffic control signal device at the intersection.
- 2. Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in s. 316.0755, pedestrians facing a steady red signal shall not enter the roadway.
- (4)(a) A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable pursuant to chapter 318 as either a pedestrian violation or, if the infraction resulted from the operation of a vehicle, as a moving violation.
- (b) A person committing a violation of subparagraph

 (1)(c)1. resulting in a crash is subject to a mandatory hearing

 under the provisions of s. 318.19.
- Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 318.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 318.14 Noncriminal traffic infractions; exception; procedures.--
- (5) Any person electing to appear before the designated official or who is required so to appear shall be deemed to have waived his or her right to the civil penalty provisions of s.

HB 0065 2004 318.18. The official, after a hearing, shall make a 116 117 determination as to whether an infraction has been committed. If the commission of an infraction has been proven, the official 118 may impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$500, except that in 119 120 cases involving unlawful speed in a school zone or, involving 121 unlawful speed in a construction zone, or involving a death, the 122 civil penalty may not exceed \$1,000; or require attendance at a driver improvement school, or both. If the person is required to 123 124 appear before the designated official pursuant to s. 318.19(1) 125 and is found to have committed the infraction, the designated 126 official shall impose a civil penalty of \$1,000 in addition to 127 any other penalties and the person's driver license shall be suspended for 6 months. If the person is required to appear 128 129 before the designated official pursuant to s. 318.19(2) and is 130 found to have committed the infraction, the designated official 131 shall impose a civil penalty of \$500 in addition to any other penalties and the person's driver license shall be suspended for 132 3 months. If the person is required to appear before the 133 designated official pursuant to s. 318.19(3) and is found to 134 have committed the infraction, the designated official shall 135 136 impose a civil penalty of \$200 in addition to any other 137 penalties and the person's driver license shall be suspended for 138 30 days. If the official determines that no infraction has been committed, no costs or penalties shall be imposed and any costs 139 or penalties that have been paid shall be returned. Moneys 140 received from the mandatory civil penalties imposed pursuant to 141 142 this subsection upon persons required to appear before a 143 designated official pursuant to s. 318.19(1), (2), or (3) shall

HB 0065 2004 144 be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the 145 General Revenue Fund. Section 3. Subsection (13) is added to section 318.18, 146 147 Florida Statutes, to read: 318.18 Amount of civil penalties. -- The penalties required 148 149 for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 are as 150 follows: 151 (13) One hundred twenty-five dollars for a violation of s. 152 316.075(1)(c)1., which shall be remitted to the Department of 153 Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund. 154 Section 4. Section 318.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to 155 read: 156 318.19 Infractions requiring a mandatory hearing. -- Any 157 person cited for the infractions listed in this section shall 158 not have the provisions of s. 318.14(2), (4), and (9) available 159 to him or her but must appear before the designated official at 160 the time and location of the scheduled hearing: 161 (1) Any infraction which results in a crash that causes the death of another; 162 163 Any infraction which results in a crash that causes 164 "serious bodily injury" of another as defined in s. 316.1933(1); 165 (3) Any infraction which results in a crash that causes any bodily injury other than "serious bodily injury" defined in 166 167 s. 316.1933(1); 168 (4)(3) Any infraction of s. 316.172(1)(b); or (5) (4) Any infraction of s. 316.520(1) or (2); or 169 170 (6) Any infraction of s. 316.075(1)(c)1. resulting in a 171 crash.

HB 0065

Section 5. Subsection (13) is added to section 318.21, 173 Florida Statutes, to read:

- 318.21 Disposition of civil penalties by county courts.—All civil penalties received by a county court pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be distributed and paid monthly as follows:
- (13)(a) All moneys received from the mandatory civil penalties imposed pursuant to s. 318.14(5) upon persons required to appear before a designated official pursuant to s. 318.19(1), (2), or (3) shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.
- (b) All moneys received from the civil penalties imposed pursuant to s. 318.18(13) shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.
- Section 6. Section 322.0261, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 322.0261 Mandatory Driver improvement course; requirement to maintain driving privileges; failure to complete; department approval of course certain crashes.--
- (1) The department shall screen crash reports received under s. 316.066 or s. 324.051 to identify crashes involving the following:
- (a) A crash involving death or a bodily injury requiring transport to a medical facility; or
- (b) A second crash by the same operator within the previous 2-year period involving property damage in an apparent amount of at least \$500.
- (2) With respect to an operator convicted of, or who pleaded nolo contendere to, a traffic offense giving rise to a

Page 7 of 10

crash identified pursuant to subsection (1), the department shall require that the operator, in addition to other applicable penalties, attend a <u>department-approved departmentally approved</u> driver improvement course in order to maintain driving privileges. If the operator fails to complete the course within 90 days of receiving notice from the department, the operator's driver's license shall be canceled by the department until the course is successfully completed.

- (3) The department shall identify any operator convicted of, or who pleaded nolo contendere to, a second violation of s. 316.075(1)(c)1., which violation occurred within 12 months after the first violation, and shall require that operator, in addition to other applicable penalties, to attend a department-approved driver improvement course in order to maintain driving privileges. If the operator fails to complete the course within 90 days after receiving notice from the department, the operator's driver license shall be canceled by the department until the course is successfully completed.
- $\underline{(4)(3)}$ In determining whether to approve a driver improvement course for the purposes of this section, the department shall consider course content designed to promote safety, driver awareness, crash avoidance techniques, and other factors or criteria to improve driver performance from a safety viewpoint.
- Section 7. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 322.27, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 322.27 Authority of department to suspend or revoke license.--

(3) There is established a point system for evaluation of convictions of violations of motor vehicle laws or ordinances, and violations of applicable provisions of s. 403.413(6)(b) when such violations involve the use of motor vehicles, for the determination of the continuing qualification of any person to operate a motor vehicle. The department is authorized to suspend the license of any person upon showing of its records or other good and sufficient evidence that the licensee has been convicted of violation of motor vehicle laws or ordinances, or applicable provisions of s. 403.413(6)(b), amounting to 12 or more points as determined by the point system. The suspension shall be for a period of not more than 1 year.

- (d) The point system shall have as its basic element a graduated scale of points assigning relative values to convictions of the following violations:
 - 1. Reckless driving, willful and wanton--4 points.
- 2. Leaving the scene of a crash resulting in property damage of more than \$50-6\$ points.
 - 3. Unlawful speed resulting in a crash--6 points.
 - 4. Passing a stopped school bus--4 points.
 - 5. Unlawful speed:

- a. Not in excess of 15 miles per hour of lawful or posted speed--3 points.
- b. In excess of 15 miles per hour of lawful or posted speed--4 points.
- 6. A violation of a traffic control signal device as provided in s. 316.075(1)(c)1.--4 points.
- 256 <u>7.6.</u> All other moving violations (including parking on a highway outside the limits of a municipality)--3 points.

HB 0065
However, no points shall be imposed for a violation of s.

316.0741 or s. 316.2065(12).

8.7. Any moving violation covered above, excluding unlawful speed, resulting in a crash--4 points.

9.8. Any conviction under s. 403.413(5)(b)--3 points.

Section 8. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.