

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate . House

Comm: RCS 04/21/2009

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The Policy and Steering Committee on Ways and Means (Altman) recommended the following:

Senate Substitute for Amendment (106626) (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (86) is added to section 316.003, Florida Statutes, to read:

316.003 Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where the context otherwise requires:

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(86) TRAFFIC INFRACTION DETECTOR.—A vehicle sensor installed to work in conjunction with a traffic control signal and a camera or cameras synchronized to automatically record two or more sequenced photographic or electronic images or streaming video of only the rear of a motor vehicle at the time the vehicle fails to stop behind the stop bar or clearly marked stop line when facing a traffic control signal steady red light. Any citation issued by the use of a traffic infraction detector must include a photograph or other recorded image showing both the license tag of the offending vehicle and the traffic control device being violated.

Section 2. Section 316.0076, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

316.0076 Regulation and use of cameras.—Regulation and use of cameras for enforcing the provisions of this chapter are expressly preempted to the state.

Section 3. Section 316.0083, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

316.0083 Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Program; administration; report.-

- (1) The department may use traffic infraction detectors to enforce s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal on the State Highway System as defined in s. 334.03.
- (2) Counties and municipalities may use traffic infraction detectors to enforce s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal on any highways, streets or roads located within their boundaries, except the State Highway System.

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- (3) (a) For purposes of administering this section, the department, counties, or municipalities may by rule or ordinance authorize a traffic infraction enforcement officer to issue a uniform traffic citation for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. The term "traffic infraction enforcement officer" means the designee of the department, county or municipality who is authorized to enforce s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal. The department, county or municipality may designate traffic infraction enforcement officers pursuant to s. 316.640(1).
- (b) A citation issued under this section shall be issued by mailing the citation by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address of the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation. In the case of joint ownership of a motor vehicle, the traffic citation shall be mailed to the first name appearing on the registration, unless the first name appearing on the registration is a business organization, in which case the second name appearing on the registration may be used. The citation must be mailed to the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation within 7 business days after the date of the violation. In addition to the citation, notification must be sent to the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation specifying remedies available under s. 318.18(15).
- (c) 1. The owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation is responsible and liable for paying the citation issued for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when the driver failed to stop at a traffic signal, unless the owner can establish that:

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- a. The motor vehicle passed through the intersection in order to yield right-of-way to an emergency vehicle or as part of a funeral procession;
- b. The motor vehicle passed through the intersection at the direction of a law enforcement officer;
- c. The motor vehicle passed through the intersection due to a medical emergency;
- d. The motor vehicle was, at the time of the violation, in the care, custody, or control of another person; or
- e. A uniform traffic citation was issued by a law enforcement officer to the driver of the motor vehicle for the alleged violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1.
- 2. In order to establish such facts, the owner of the motor vehicle shall, within 30 days after the date of issuance of the citation, furnish to the appropriate governmental entity an affidavit setting forth detailed information supporting an exemption as provided in this paragraph.
- a. Affidavits supporting exemptions under sub-subparagraph 1.d must include the name, address, date of birth, and, if known, the driver's license number of the person who leased, rented, or otherwise had care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of the alleged violation. If the vehicle was stolen at the time of the alleged offense, the affidavit must include the police report indicating that the vehicle was stolen.
- b. If a citation for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. was issued at the location of the violation by a law enforcement officer, the serial number of the uniform traffic citation.

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c. Upon receipt of an affidavit, the person designated as having care, custody, and control of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation may be issued a citation for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when the driver failed to stop at a traffic signal. The affidavit is admissible in a proceeding pursuant to this section for the purpose of providing proof that the person identified in the affidavit was in actual care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle. The owner of a leased vehicle for which a citation is issued for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when the driver failed to stop at a traffic signal is not responsible for paying the citation and is not required to submit an affidavit as specified in this subsection if the motor vehicle involved in the violation is registered in the name of the lessee of such motor vehicle.

- (d) A written report of a traffic infraction enforcement officer, along with photographic or electronic images or streaming video evidence that a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when the driver failed to stop at a traffic signal has occurred, is admissible in any proceeding to enforce this section and raises a rebuttable presumption that the motor vehicle named in the report or shown in the photographic or electronic images or streaming video evidence was used in violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when the driver failed to stop at a traffic signal.
- (4) The submission of a false affidavit is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
 - (5) This section supplements the enforcement of s.

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316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. by law enforcement officers when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal, and this section does not prohibit a law enforcement officer from issuing a citation for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal in accordance with normal traffic-enforcement techniques.

- (6)(a) Each county or municipality that operates a traffic infraction detector shall submit an annual report to the department which details the results of using the traffic infraction detector and the procedures for enforcement. The information submitted by the counties and municipalities must include statistical data and information required by the department to complete the report and be submitted no later than 90 days prior to the due date of the annual report.
- (b) The department shall provide an annual summary report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives regarding the use and operation of traffic infraction detectors under this section. The summary report must include a review of the information submitted to the department by the counties and municipalities and must describe the enhancement of the traffic safety and enforcement programs. The department shall report its recommendations, including any necessary legislation, on or before December 1, 2010, to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (7) Any governmental entity may supply the department with data that is machine readable by the department's computer system, listing persons who have one or more outstanding violations of this section. Pursuant to s. 320.03(8), those

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persons may not be issued a license plate or revalidation sticker for any motor vehicle.

Section 4. Subsection (6) of section 316.0745, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.0745 Uniform signals and devices.

- (6) (a) Any system of traffic control devices controlled and operated from a remote location by electronic computers or similar devices must shall meet all requirements established for the uniform system, and, if where such a system affects systems affect the movement of traffic on state roads, the design of the system must shall be reviewed and approved by the Department of Transportation.
- (b) Any traffic infraction detector deployed on the highways, streets and roads of the state must meet specifications established by the Department of Transportation and must be tested at regular intervals according to procedures prescribed by that department. However, any such equipment acquired by purchase, lease, or other arrangement under an agreement entered into by a county or municipality before the effective date of this act or equipment used to enforce an ordinance enacted by a county or municipality before the effective date of this act is not required to meet the specifications established by the Department of Transportation until September 30, 2010

Section 5. Section 316.0776, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

316.0776 Traffic infraction detectors; placement and installation.—Placement and installation of traffic infraction detectors is allowed on the State Highway System, county roads,



and municipal streets under specifications developed by the Department of Transportation, so long as safety and operation of the road facility is not impaired.

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 316.640, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.640 Enforcement.—The enforcement of the traffic laws of this state is vested as follows:

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- (b) 1. The Department of Transportation has authority to enforce on all the streets and highways of this state all laws applicable within its authority.
- 2.a. The Department of Transportation shall develop training and qualifications standards for toll enforcement officers whose sole authority is to enforce the payment of tolls pursuant to s. 316.1001. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to permit the carrying of firearms or other weapons, nor shall a toll enforcement officer have arrest authority.
- b. For the purpose of enforcing s. 316.1001, governmental entities, as defined in s. 334.03, which own or operate a toll facility may employ independent contractors or designate employees as toll enforcement officers; however, any such toll enforcement officer must successfully meet the training and qualifications standards for toll enforcement officers established by the Department of Transportation.
- 3.a The department shall develop training and qualifications standards for traffic infraction enforcement officers whose sole authority is to enforce s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver fails to stop at a traffic signal pursuant to s. 316.0083. This subparagraph does not authorize

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the carrying of firearms or other weapons by a traffic infraction enforcement officer and does not authorize a traffic infraction enforcement officer to make arrests.

b. For the purpose of enforcing s. 316.0083, the department, counties or municipalities may employ independent contractors or designate employees as traffic infraction enforcement officers; however, any such traffic infraction enforcement officer must successfully meet the training and qualifications standards for traffic infraction enforcement officers established by the department.

Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 316.650, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.650 Traffic citations.

- (3) (a) Except for a traffic citation issued pursuant to s. 316.1001 and s. 316.0083, each traffic enforcement officer, upon issuing a traffic citation to an alleged violator of any provision of the motor vehicle laws of this state or of any traffic ordinance of any municipality or town, shall deposit the original traffic citation or, in the case of a traffic enforcement agency that has an automated citation issuance system, the chief administrative officer shall provide by an electronic transmission a replica of the citation data to a court having jurisdiction over the alleged offense or with its traffic violations bureau within 5 days after issuance to the violator.
- (b) If a traffic citation is issued pursuant to s. 316.1001, a traffic enforcement officer may deposit the original traffic citation or, in the case of a traffic enforcement agency that has an automated citation system, may provide by an

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electronic transmission a replica of the citation data to a court having jurisdiction over the alleged offense or with its traffic violations bureau within 45 days after the date of issuance of the citation to the violator. If the person cited for the violation of s. 316.1001 makes the election provided by s. 318.14(12) and pays the \$25 fine, or such other amount as imposed by the governmental entity owning the applicable toll facility, plus the amount of the unpaid toll that is shown on the traffic citation directly to the governmental entity that issued the citation, or on whose behalf the citation was issued, in accordance with s. 318.14(12), the traffic citation will not be submitted to the court, the disposition will be reported to the department by the governmental entity that issued the citation, or on whose behalf the citation was issued, and no points will be assessed against the person's driver's license.

(c) If a traffic citation is issued under s. 316.0083, the traffic infraction enforcement officer shall provide by electronic transmission a replica of the citation data to the court having jurisdiction over the alleged offense or its traffic violations bureau within 5 business days after the date of issuance of the citation to the violator.

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 318.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 318.14 Noncriminal traffic infractions; exception; procedures.-
- (2) Except as provided in s. 316.1001(2) and s. 316.0083(3), any person cited for an infraction under this section must sign and accept a citation indicating a promise to appear. The officer may indicate on the traffic citation the

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time and location of the scheduled hearing and must indicate the applicable civil penalty established in s. 318.18.

Section 9. Subsection (15) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows:

- (15) (a) One hundred fifty twenty-five dollars for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver has failed to stop at a traffic signal and when enforced by a law enforcement officer. Sixty dollars shall be distributed as provided in s. 318.21, \$25 shall be distributed to the General Revenue Fund, and the remaining \$65 shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Administrative Trust Fund of the Department of Health.
- (b) One Hundred Fifty dollars for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver has failed to stop at a traffic signal and when enforced by the department's traffic infraction enforcement officer shall be distributed to the General Revenue Fund.
- (c) One Hundred Fifty dollars for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver has failed to stop at a traffic signal and when enforced by a county or municipality's traffic infraction enforcement officer. Seventy dollars shall be distributed to the county or municipality issuing the citation and the remaining \$80 shall be distributed to the General Revenue Fund.
- (d) If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1., as enforced by a traffic

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infraction enforcement officer under s. 316.0083, presents documentation from the appropriate governmental entity that the uniform traffic citation was in error, the clerk of court may dismiss the case. The clerk of court shall not charge for this service.

Section 10. 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.



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- 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. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1.-4 points. However, no points shall be imposed for a violation of s. 316.074(1) or s. 316.075(1)(c)1. when a driver has failed to stop at a traffic signal and when enforced by a traffic infraction enforcement officer.
- 7. All other moving violations (including parking on a highway outside the limits of a municipality)-3 points. However, no points shall be imposed for a violation of s. 316.0741 or s. 316.2065(12).
- 8. Any moving violation covered above, excluding unlawful speed, resulting in a crash-4 points.
 - 9. Any conviction under s. 403.413(6)(b)-3 points.
 - 10. Any conviction under s. 316.0775(2)-4 points.

Section 11. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are severable.

Section 12. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========== And the title is amended as follows:

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Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to uniform traffic control; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; defining the term "traffic infraction detector"; creating s. 316.0076, F.S.; preempting to the state the use of cameras to enforce traffic laws; creating s. 316.0083, F.S.; creating the Mark Wandall Traffic Safety Program; authorizing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, a county or municipality to use a traffic infraction detector to identify a motor vehicle that fails to stop at a traffic control signal steady red light; requiring authorization of a traffic infraction enforcement officer to issue and enforce a citation for such violation; providing exemptions from citations; providing procedures for disposition and enforcement of citations; providing certain evidence is admissible for enforcement; providing penalties for submission of a false affidavit; providing this section does not preclude the issuance of citations by law enforcement officers; establishing a fine of a certain amount; providing for disposition of revenue collected; providing for the Legislature to exclude a county or municipality from the program; requiring reports from participating municipalities and counties to the department; requiring the department to make reports to the Governor and the Legislature; providing certain persons may not be issued a license plate or revalidation sticker; amending s. 316.0745, F.S.; providing that traffic infraction detectors must meet certain specifications; providing for preexisting equipment; creating s. 316.0776, F.S.; providing for placement and

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installation of detectors on certain roads; amending s. 316.640, F.S.; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to develop training and qualification standards for traffic infraction enforcement officers; amending s. 316.650, F.S., providing an exception; requiring a traffic enforcement agency to provide a replica of the citation data by electronic transmission under certain conditions; amending s. 318.14, F.S., providing a exception from requiring a person cited for an infraction for failing to stop at a traffic control signal steady red light to sign and accept a citation indicating a promise to appear; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; increasing certain fines; providing for penalties for infractions enforced by a traffic infraction enforcement officer; providing for distribution of fines; allowing the clerk of court to dismiss certain cases upon receiving documentation the uniform traffic citation was issued in error; amending s. 322.27, F.S.; providing no points may be assessed against the drivers license for infractions enforced by a traffic infraction enforcement officer; providing for severability; providing an effective date.