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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to traffic control signals; amending s.
3 316.075, F.S.; requiring traffic control signals to
4 maintain certain signal intervals and display durations
5 based on approach speeds; providing that a citation for
6 specified violations shall be dismissed if the traffic
7 control signal does not meet specified requirements;
8 providing an effective date.

9
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11
12 Section 1. Section 316.075, Florida Statutes, is amended
13 to read:

14 316.075 Traffic control signal devices.—

15 (1) Except for automatic warning signal lights installed
16 or to be installed at railroad crossings, whenever traffic,
17 including municipal traffic, is controlled by traffic control
18 signals exhibiting different colored lights, or colored lighted
19 arrows, successively one at a time or in combination, only the
20 colors green, red, and yellow shall be used, except for special
21 pedestrian signals carrying a word legend, and the lights shall
22 indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as
23 follows:

24 (a) Green indication.—

25 1. Vehicular traffic facing a circular green signal may
26 proceed cautiously straight through or turn right or left unless
27 a sign at such place prohibits either such turn. But vehicular
28 traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, shall yield

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29 the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully
30 within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time
31 such signal is exhibited.

32 2. Vehicular traffic facing a green arrow signal, shown
33 alone or in combination with another indication, as directed by
34 the manual, may cautiously enter the intersection only to make
35 the movement indicated by such arrow, or such other movement as
36 is permitted by other indications shown at the same time, except
37 the driver of any vehicle may U-turn, so as to proceed in the
38 opposite direction unless such movement is prohibited by posted
39 traffic control signs. Such vehicular traffic shall yield the
40 right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an adjacent
41 crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

42 3. Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control
43 signal as provided in s. 316.0755, pedestrians facing any green
44 signal, except when the sole green signal is a turn arrow, may
45 proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked
46 crosswalk.

47 (b) Steady yellow indication.—

48 1. Vehicular traffic facing a steady yellow signal is
49 thereby warned that the related green movement is being
50 terminated or that a red indication will be exhibited
51 immediately thereafter when vehicular traffic shall not enter
52 the intersection.

53 2. Pedestrians facing a steady yellow signal, unless
54 otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in
55 s. 316.0755, are thereby advised that there is insufficient time

56 | to cross the roadway before a red indication is shown and no
57 | pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway.

58 | (c) Steady red indication.—

59 | 1. Vehicular traffic facing a steady red signal shall stop
60 | before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the
61 | intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection
62 | and shall remain standing until a green indication is shown;
63 | however:

64 | a. The driver of a vehicle which is stopped at a clearly
65 | marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on
66 | the near side of the intersection, or, if none then at the point
67 | nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of
68 | approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before entering
69 | the intersection in obedience to a steady red signal may make a
70 | right turn, but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and
71 | other traffic proceeding as directed by the signal at the
72 | intersection, except that municipal and county authorities may
73 | prohibit any such right turn against a steady red signal at any
74 | intersection, which prohibition shall be effective when a sign
75 | giving notice thereof is erected in a location visible to
76 | traffic approaching the intersection.

77 | b. The driver of a vehicle on a one-way street that
78 | intersects another one-way street on which traffic moves to the
79 | left shall stop in obedience to a steady red signal, but may
80 | then make a left turn into the one-way street, but shall yield
81 | the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic proceeding as
82 | directed by the signal at the intersection, except that
83 | municipal and county authorities may prohibit any such left turn

84 as described, which prohibition shall be effective when a sign
 85 giving notice thereof is attached to the traffic control signal
 86 device at the intersection.

87 2.a. The driver of a vehicle facing a steady red signal
 88 shall stop before entering the crosswalk and remain stopped to
 89 allow a pedestrian, with a permitted signal, to cross a roadway
 90 when the pedestrian is in the crosswalk or steps into the
 91 crosswalk and is upon the half of the roadway upon which the
 92 vehicle is traveling or when the pedestrian is approaching so
 93 closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in
 94 danger.

95 b. Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian control
 96 signal as provided in s. 316.0755, pedestrians facing a steady
 97 red signal shall not enter the roadway.

98 (2) In the event an official traffic control signal is
 99 erected and maintained at a place other than an intersection,
 100 the provisions of this section shall be applicable except as to
 101 those provisions which by their nature can have no application.
 102 Any stop required shall be made at a sign or marking on the
 103 pavement indicating where the stop shall be made, but in the
 104 absence of any such sign or marking the stop shall be made at
 105 the signal.

106 (3) (a) A ~~No~~ traffic control signal device may not ~~shall~~ be
 107 used unless it exhibits ~~which does not exhibit~~ a yellow or
 108 "caution" light between the green or "go" signal and the red or
 109 "stop" signal. Whenever an engineering analysis is undertaken
 110 for the purpose of evaluating or reevaluating yellow and red
 111 signal display durations of a new or existing traffic control

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112 signal, the department and local authorities shall adhere to the
113 following:

114 1. The minimum yellow signal display duration on traffic
115 control signals shall be based on the speed limit or the actual
116 85th percentile approach speed, whichever is greater. The 85th
117 percentile approach speed is the speed at or below which 85
118 percent of free-flowing traffic is traveling. The minimum yellow
119 signal display duration shall be 3 seconds for traffic control
120 signals on streets with a speed limit or actual 85th percentile
121 approach speed of 25 miles per hour or less. The minimum yellow
122 signal display duration shall be increased one-half second for
123 each increase of 5 miles per hour in the speed limit or actual
124 85th percentile approach speed, whichever is greater, above 25
125 miles per hour, not to exceed 6 seconds.

126 2. Intersections with a speed limit or actual 85th
127 percentile approach speeds greater than 55 miles per hour shall
128 have, on approach, a sign posted in accordance with the
129 Department of Transportation's manual of uniform traffic control
130 devices to alert drivers to the traffic control signal.

131 (b) No traffic control signal device shall display other
132 than the color red at the top of the vertical signal, nor shall
133 it display other than the color red at the extreme left of the
134 horizontal signal.

135 (c) To provide additional time before conflicting traffic
136 movements proceed, the yellow signal display shall be followed
137 by an all red clearance interval delaying the change of opposing
138 red light signals. The duration of the clearance interval shall
139 be determined by engineering practices as provided for in the

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140 Department of Transportation's manual of uniform traffic control
141 devices required under s. 316.0745. The duration of a red
142 clearance interval may be extended from its predetermined value
143 for a given cycle based upon the detection of a vehicle that is
144 predicted to violate the red signal indication.

145 (4) A violation of subsection (1) or subsection (2) ~~this~~
146 ~~section~~ is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable pursuant
147 to chapter 318 as either a pedestrian violation or, if the
148 infraction resulted from the operation of a vehicle, as a moving
149 violation. However, a citation for a violation of subparagraph
150 (1)(c)1. committed at an intersection where the traffic signal
151 device does not meet all requirements under subsection (3) is
152 unenforceable and the court, clerk of the court, designated
153 official, or authorized operator of a traffic violations bureau
154 shall dismiss the citation without penalty or assessment of
155 points against the license of the person cited. Dismissal of the
156 citation under this subsection does not affect the validity of
157 any other citation or charge for a violation of law and the
158 dismissal may not be used as evidence in any other civil or
159 criminal proceeding.

160 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.