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

11
12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

13
14 Section 1. Section 316.075, Florida Statutes, is amended
15 to read:

16 316.075 Traffic control signal devices.—

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

26 (a) Green indication.—

27 1. Vehicular traffic facing a circular green signal may
28 proceed cautiously straight through or turn right or left unless

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29 a sign at such place prohibits either such turn. But vehicular
30 traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, shall yield
31 the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully
32 within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time
33 such signal is exhibited.

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

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

49 (b) Steady yellow indication.—

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

55 2. Pedestrians facing a steady yellow signal, unless
56 otherwise directed by a pedestrian control signal as provided in

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57 s. 316.0755, are thereby advised that there is insufficient time
58 to cross the roadway before a red indication is shown and no
59 pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway.

60 (c) Steady red indication.—

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

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

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

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85 municipal and county authorities may prohibit any such left turn
86 as described, which prohibition shall be effective when a sign
87 giving notice thereof is attached to the traffic control signal
88 device at the intersection.

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

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

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

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

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113 signal display durations of a new or existing traffic control
114 signal, the department and local authorities shall adhere to the
115 following:

116 1. The minimum yellow signal display duration on traffic
117 control signals shall be based on the posted speed limit plus 10
118 percent along with the standards set forth in the Institute of
119 Transportation Engineers Traffic Engineering Handbook, sixth
120 edition, published in March, 2009. The minimum yellow signal
121 display duration shall be 3 seconds for traffic control signals
122 on streets with a posted speed limit of 25 miles per hour or
123 less. The minimum yellow signal display duration found after the
124 evaluation or reevaluation under this paragraph shall be raised
125 to the nearest half second not to exceed 6 seconds.

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

131 (b) A ~~No~~ traffic control signal device may not shall
132 display other than the color red at the top of the vertical
133 signal, nor may shall it display other than the color red at the
134 extreme left of the 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
140 Department of Transportation's manual of uniform traffic control

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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. Intersections with traffic infraction
160 detectors must meet the requirements in this section by December
161 31, 2012, or any citations issued at the intersections that do
162 not meet the requirements in this section shall be dismissed
163 under this subsection. All other intersections must meet the
164 requirements in this section by December 31, 2013, or any
165 citations issued at the intersections that do not meet the
166 requirements in this section shall be dismissed under this
167 subsection. One-third of the total number of intersections must

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168 | be examined and brought into compliance each year until all
169 | intersections are in compliance.

170 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.