

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to traffic and pedestrian safety;  
3           providing a short title; creating s. 316.0756, F.S.;  
4           requiring a traffic engineering study to be conducted  
5           which recommends installation of a specified  
6           pedestrian crosswalk before such installation occurs;  
7           requiring a pedestrian crosswalk on a public highway,  
8           street, or road which is located at any point other  
9           than at an intersection with another public highway,  
10          street, or road to conform to specified requirements;  
11          providing coordination requirements for certain  
12          devices and signals; requiring that traffic control  
13          signal devices at adjacent intersections be taken into  
14          consideration; requiring, by a specified date, the  
15          entity with jurisdiction over a public highway,  
16          street, or road with a certain pedestrian crosswalk to  
17          ensure that the crosswalk conforms to specified  
18          requirements; authorizing such entity, alternatively,  
19          to remove any such crosswalk; requiring, by a  
20          specified date, the Department of Transportation to  
21          submit a certain request for authorization to the  
22          Federal Government; requiring applicable entities to  
23          replace or remove specified traffic control devices  
24          within a specified timeframe after the date of federal  
25          authorization or denial, as applicable; authorizing

26 retrofitting of crosswalks with legally acceptable  
 27 equipment; providing a declaration of important state  
 28 interest; providing an effective date.

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

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 32 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Sophia Nelson  
 33 Pedestrian Safety Act."

34 Section 2. Section 316.0756, Florida Statutes, is created  
 35 to read:

36 316.0756 Traffic control signal devices and pedestrian  
 37 control signals at crosswalks other than at intersections.-

38 (1) (a) Before the installation of a pedestrian crosswalk  
 39 after October 1, 2021, on a public highway, street, or road  
 40 which is located at any point other than at an intersection with  
 41 another public highway, street, or road, a traffic engineering  
 42 study must be conducted by a Florida licensed professional  
 43 engineer which recommends the installation of such crosswalk.

44 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary:

45 1. A pedestrian crosswalk on a public highway, street, or  
 46 road that has a posted speed limit of 30 miles per hour or more  
 47 which is located at any point other than at an intersection with  
 48 another public highway, street, or road must conform to the  
 49 requirements of chapters 4D and 4E of the most recent Manual on  
 50 Uniform Traffic Control Devices and other applicable Department

51 of Transportation standards, manuals, and specifications and  
52 must include a pedestrian-facing sign containing language  
53 stating duties applicable to a pedestrian, as provided in this  
54 chapter.

55 2. A pedestrian crosswalk on a public highway, street, or  
56 road that has a posted speed limit of 29 miles per hour or less  
57 which is located at any point other than at an intersection with  
58 another public highway, street, or road must include a  
59 pedestrian-facing sign containing language stating duties  
60 applicable to a pedestrian, as provided in this chapter.

61 (c) Traffic control signal devices and pedestrian control  
62 signals at crosswalk locations described in subparagraph (b)1.  
63 must be coordinated with traffic control signal devices at  
64 intersections adjacent to the crosswalk, and such traffic  
65 control signal devices at intersections adjacent to the  
66 crosswalk must be taken into consideration as provided in the  
67 most recent Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and other  
68 applicable Department of Transportation specifications.

69 (2) By October 1, 2024, the entity with jurisdiction over  
70 a public highway, street, or road with a crosswalk described in  
71 subsection (1) which is in existence on October 1, 2021, shall  
72 ensure that such crosswalk is controlled by coordinated traffic  
73 control signal devices and pedestrian control signals as  
74 required under subsection (1). Alternatively, the entity with  
75 jurisdiction may remove any such existing crosswalk.

76        (3) By October 1, 2022, the Department of Transportation  
77        shall submit to the Federal Government a request for  
78        authorization to allow yellow rectangular rapid flashing beacon  
79        traffic control devices to be replaced by red rectangular rapid  
80        flashing beacon traffic control devices. If the Federal  
81        Government grants the request, the applicable entity must  
82        replace all yellow rectangular rapid flashing beacon traffic  
83        control devices at each crosswalk described in subsection (1) or  
84        subsection (2) with red rectangular rapid flashing beacon  
85        traffic control devices within 12 months after the date of  
86        federal authorization. If the Federal Government denies the  
87        request, the applicable entity must remove all yellow  
88        rectangular rapid flashing beacon traffic control devices from  
89        each crosswalk described in subsection (1) or subsection (2) by  
90        October 1, 2025. The entity with jurisdiction over such  
91        crosswalk may retrofit the crosswalk with legally acceptable  
92        equipment.

93        Section 3. The Legislature finds and declares that this  
94        act fulfills an important state interest.

95        Section 4. This act shall take effect October 1, 2021.