

Senate File 19 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 19

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act prohibiting the use of automated traffic law enforcement
2 systems and requiring the removal of existing systems, and
3 including effective date provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.1, Code 2013, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 95. *“Automated traffic law enforcement*
4 *system”* means a device with one or more sensors working in
5 conjunction with one of the following:

6 a. An official traffic-control signal, to produce recorded
7 images of motor vehicles entering an intersection against a red
8 signal light.

9 b. A speed measuring device, to produce recorded images of
10 motor vehicles traveling at a prohibited rate of speed.

11 c. A railroad grade crossing signal light, as described in
12 section 321.342, to produce images of vehicles violating the
13 signal light.

14 d. Any official traffic-control device, if failure to comply
15 with the official traffic-control device constitutes a moving
16 violation under this chapter.

17 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 321.5A **Automated traffic law**
18 **enforcement systems prohibited.**

19 The department or a local authority shall not place or cause
20 to be placed on or adjacent to a highway, or maintain or employ
21 the use of, an automated traffic law enforcement system for
22 the enforcement of any provision of this chapter or any local
23 ordinance relating to motor vehicles.

24 Sec. 3. **REMOVAL OF AUTOMATED TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT**
25 **SYSTEMS — VALIDITY OF PRIOR NOTICES AND CITATIONS.** On or
26 before July 1, 2013, a local authority using an automated
27 traffic law enforcement system shall discontinue using the
28 system and remove the system equipment. Effective July 1,
29 2013, all local ordinances authorizing the use of an automated
30 traffic law enforcement system are void. However, notices
31 of violations mailed or citations issued pursuant to such an
32 ordinance prior to July 1, 2013, shall not be invalidated by
33 the enactment of this Act and shall be processed according to
34 the provisions of the law under which they were authorized.

35 Sec. 4. **EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT.** The section of this Act

1 relating to the removal of automated traffic law enforcement
2 systems and the validity of prior notices and citations, being
3 deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

4

EXPLANATION

5 This bill imposes a statewide prohibition on the use of
6 automated traffic law enforcement systems and provides for
7 the termination of existing automated traffic law enforcement
8 programs.

9 The bill defines "automated traffic law enforcement system"
10 as a device with one or more sensors working in conjunction
11 with an official traffic-control signal, a speed measuring
12 device, a railroad grade crossing signal light, or any other
13 official traffic-control device if failure to comply with the
14 traffic-control device would constitute a moving violation.
15 An automated traffic law enforcement system records images of
16 vehicles violating an associated traffic control signal or
17 device or violating a speed limit. The definition includes
18 within its scope devices known as "red light cameras" and
19 "speed cameras".

20 The bill prohibits the department of transportation and
21 local authorities from placing an automated traffic law
22 enforcement system on or adjacent to a highway or maintaining
23 or employing the use of such a system for the enforcement of
24 state or local motor vehicle laws, effective July 1, 2013.

25 Local authorities that are currently using automated traffic
26 law enforcement systems must discontinue their use and remove
27 related equipment on or before July 1, 2013. On that date, all
28 local ordinances authorizing the use of automated traffic law
29 enforcement systems are void. However, notices of violations
30 that were mailed or citations which were issued prior to
31 July 1, 2013, are not invalidated by the bill and remain
32 enforceable. These provisions of the bill take effect upon
33 enactment.