

## Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 366

An act relating to state uniform traffic control; creating the “Move Over Act”; amending s. 316.126, F.S.; providing requirements with respect to authorized emergency vehicles making use of visual signals when parked; providing for the disposition of fines; amending s. 316.2397, F.S.; authorizing the use of emergency lights and sirens on certain vehicles; authorizing wreckers to use amber rotating or flashing lights under certain circumstances; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; providing a penalty for a violation of s. 316.126(1)(b), F.S.; amending s. 318.21, F.S.; providing a civil penalty for violation of s. 316.126(1)(b), F.S.; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Short title.—This act may be cited as the “Move Over Act.”

Section 2. Subsections (1) and (6) of section 316.126, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.126 Operation of vehicles and actions of pedestrians on approach of authorized emergency vehicle.—

(1)(a) Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle, while en route to meet an existing emergency, the driver of every other vehicle shall, when such emergency vehicle is giving audible signals by siren, exhaust whistle, or other adequate device, or visible signals by the use of displayed blue or red lights, yield the right-of-way to the emergency vehicle and shall immediately proceed to a position parallel to, and as close as reasonable to the closest edge of the curb of the roadway, clear of any intersection and shall stop and remain in position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, unless otherwise directed by any law enforcement officer.

(b) When an authorized emergency vehicle making use of any visual signals is parked, the driver of every other vehicle, as soon as it is safe:

1. Shall vacate the lane closest to the emergency vehicle when driving on an interstate highway or other highway with two or more lanes traveling in the direction of the emergency vehicle, except when otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer.

2. Shall slow to a speed that is 20 miles per hour less than the posted speed limit when the posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour or greater; or travel at 5 miles per hour when the posted speed limit is 20 miles per hour or less, when driving on a two-lane road, except when otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer.

(c) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall provide an educational awareness campaign informing the motoring public about the Move Over Act. The department shall provide information about the

Move Over Act in all newly printed driver's license educational materials after July 1, 2002.

This section shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.

(6) A violation of this section is a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable pursuant to chapter 318 as either a moving violation for infractions of subsection (1) or subsection (3), or as a pedestrian violation for infractions of subsection (2).

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 316.2397, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.2397 Certain lights prohibited; exceptions.—

(3) Vehicles of the fire department and fire patrol, including vehicles of volunteer firefighters as permitted under s. 316.2398, vehicles of medical staff physicians or technicians of medical facilities licensed by the state as authorized under s. 316.2398, ambulances as authorized under this chapter, and buses and taxicabs as authorized under s. 316.2399 are permitted to show or display red lights. Vehicles of the fire department, fire patrol, police vehicles, and such ambulances and emergency vehicles of municipal and county departments, public service corporations operated by private corporations, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as are designated or authorized by their respective department or the chief of police of an incorporated city or any sheriff of any county are hereby authorized to operate emergency lights and sirens in an emergency. Wreckers, mosquito control fog and spray vehicles, and emergency vehicles of governmental departments or public service corporations may show or display amber lights when in actual operation or when a hazard exists provided they are not used going to and from the scene of operation or hazard without specific authorization of a law enforcement officer or law enforcement agency. Wreckers may use amber rotating or flashing lights while performing recoveries and loading on the roadside day or night, and while towing a vehicle on wheel lifts, slings, or under reach only if the operator of the wrecker deems such lights necessary. A flatbed, car carrier, or rollback may not use amber rotating or flashing lights when hauling a vehicle on the bed unless it creates a hazard to other motorists because of protruding objects. Further, escort vehicles will be permitted to show or display amber lights when in the actual process of escorting overdimensioned equipment, material, or buildings as authorized by law. Vehicles of private watch, guard, or patrol agencies licensed pursuant to chapter 493 may show or display amber lights while patrolling condominium, cooperative, and private residential and business communities by which employed and which traverse public streets or highways.

Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

318.18 Amount of civil penalties.—The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 are as follows:

(2) Thirty dollars for all nonmoving traffic violations and:

(a) For all violations of s. 322.19.

(b) For all violations of ss. 320.0605, 320.07(1), 322.065, and 322.15(1). Any person who is cited for a violation of s. 320.07(1) shall be charged a delinquent fee pursuant to s. 320.07(4).

1. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 320.0605 or s. 320.07 can show proof of having a valid registration at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a \$5 dismissal fee. A person who finds it impossible or impractical to obtain a valid registration certificate must submit an affidavit detailing the reasons for the impossibility or impracticality. The reasons may include, but are not limited to, the fact that the vehicle was sold, stolen, or destroyed; that the state in which the vehicle is registered does not issue a certificate of registration; or that the vehicle is owned by another person.

2. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 322.03, s. 322.065, or s. 322.15 can show a driver's license issued to him or her and valid at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a \$5 dismissal fee.

3. If a person who is cited for a violation of s. 316.646 can show proof of security as required by s. 627.733, issued to the person and valid at the time of arrest, the clerk of the court may dismiss the case and may assess a \$5 dismissal fee. A person who finds it impossible or impractical to obtain proof of security must submit an affidavit detailing the reasons for the impracticality. The reasons may include, but are not limited to, the fact that the vehicle has since been sold, stolen, or destroyed; that the owner or registrant of the vehicle is not required by s. 627.733 to maintain personal injury protection insurance; or that the vehicle is owned by another person.

(c) For all violations of ss. 316.2935 and 316.610. However, for a violation of s. 316.2935 or s. 316.610, if the person committing the violation corrects the defect and obtains proof of such timely repair by an affidavit of compliance executed by the law enforcement agency within 30 days from the date upon which the traffic citation was issued, and pays \$4 to the law enforcement agency, thereby completing the affidavit of compliance, then upon presentation of said affidavit by the defendant to the clerk within the 30-day time period set forth under s. 318.14(4), the fine must be reduced to \$5, which the clerk of the court shall retain.

(d) For all violations of s. 316.126(1)(b), unless otherwise specified.

Section 5. Subsection (13) is added to section 318.21, Florida Statutes, to read:

318.21 Disposition of civil penalties by county courts.—All civil penalties received by a county court pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be distributed and paid monthly as follows:

(13) As of July 1, 2002, the proceeds from the fine as defined in s. 316.126(1)(b) shall be paid to the Crimes Compensation Trust Fund administered by the Office of the Attorney General.

Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

Approved by the Governor May 1, 2002.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 1, 2002.