

CHAPTER 2020-64

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 37

An act relating to school bus safety; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; revising civil penalties for certain violations relating to stopping for a school bus; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (5) of section 318.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows:

(5)(a) Two ~~One~~ hundred dollars for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a), failure to stop for a school bus. If, at a hearing, the alleged offender is found to have committed this offense, the court shall impose a minimum civil penalty of \$200 ~~\$100~~. In addition to this penalty, for a second or subsequent offense within a period of 5 years, the department shall suspend the driver license of the person for not less than 180 ~~90~~ days and not more than 1 year ~~6 months~~.

(b) Four ~~Two~~ hundred dollars for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(b), passing a school bus on the side that children enter and exit when the school bus displays a stop signal. If, at a hearing, the alleged offender is found to have committed this offense, the court shall impose a minimum civil penalty of \$400 ~~\$200~~. In addition to this penalty, for a second or subsequent offense within a period of 5 years, the department shall suspend the driver license of the person for not less than 360 ~~180~~ days and not more than 2 years ~~1 year~~.

Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2021.

Approved by the Governor June 20, 2020.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 20, 2020.