

1 HB499
2 184586-1
3 By Representatives Pettus, Rowe and Hanes
4 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
5 First Read: 11-APR-17

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, vehicular and pedestrian
9 traffic is regulated by traffic-control signals.

10 This bill would provide for the procedures
11 to be used by vehicular and pedestrian traffic when
12 a traffic-control signal is out of operation or not
13 functioning properly.

14
15 A BILL
16 TO BE ENTITLED
17 AN ACT

18
19 To amend Section 32-5A-32, Code of Alabama 1975,
20 relating to traffic-control signals; to provide for the
21 procedures to be used by vehicular and pedestrian traffic when
22 a traffic-control signal is out of operation or not
23 functioning properly.

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

25 Section 1. Section 32-5A-32, Code of Alabama 1975,
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 "§32-5A-32.

1 "a) Whenever traffic is controlled by
2 traffic-control signals exhibiting different colored lights,
3 or colored lighted arrows, successively one at a time or in
4 combination, only the colors green, red, and yellow shall be
5 used, except for special pedestrian signals carrying a word or
6 symbol legend, and the lights shall indicate and apply to
7 drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

8 "(1) Green indication:

9 "a. Vehicular traffic facing a circular green signal
10 may proceed straight through or turn right or left unless a
11 sign at such place prohibits either such turn. But vehicular
12 traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, shall yield
13 the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully
14 within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time
15 such signal is exhibited.

16 "b. Vehicular traffic facing a green arrow signal,
17 shown alone or in combination with another indication, may
18 cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement
19 indicated by such arrow, or such other movement as is
20 permitted by other indications shown at the same time. Such
21 vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians
22 lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic
23 lawfully using the intersection.

24 "c. Unless otherwise directed by a
25 pedestrian-control signal, as provided in Section 32-5A-33,
26 pedestrians facing any green signal, except when the sole

1 green signal is a turn arrow, may proceed across the roadway
2 within any marked or unmarked crosswalk.

3 "(2) Steady yellow indication:

4 "a. Vehicular traffic facing a steady circular
5 yellow or yellow arrow signal is thereby warned that the
6 related green movement is being terminated or that a red
7 indication will be exhibited immediately thereafter.

8 "b. Pedestrians facing a steady circular yellow or
9 yellow arrow signal, unless otherwise directed by a
10 pedestrian-control signal as provided in Section 32-5A-33, are
11 thereby advised that there is insufficient time to cross the
12 roadway before a red indication is shown and no pedestrian
13 shall then start to cross the roadway.

14 "(3) Steady red indication:

15 "a. Vehicular traffic facing a steady circular red
16 signal alone shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if
17 none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the
18 intersection, or if none, then before entering the
19 intersection and shall remain standing until an indication to
20 proceed is shown except as provided in subdivision (3)b.

21 "b. Except when a sign is in place prohibiting a
22 turn, vehicular traffic facing any steady red signal may
23 cautiously enter the intersection to turn right, or to turn
24 left from a one-way street into a one-way street, after
25 stopping as required by subdivision (3)a. Such vehicular
26 traffic shall yield the right of way to pedestrians lawfully

1 within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully
2 using the intersection.

3 "c. Unless otherwise directed by a
4 pedestrian-control signal as provided in Section 32-5A-33,
5 pedestrians facing a steady circular red signal alone shall
6 not enter the roadway.

7 "~~(4)~~ (b) In the event an official traffic-control
8 signal is erected and maintained at a place other than an
9 intersection, the provisions of this section shall be
10 applicable except as to those provisions which by their nature
11 can have no application. Any stop required shall be made at a
12 sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the stop
13 shall be made, but in the absence of any such signal or
14 marking the stop shall be made at the signal.

15 "(c) Except as otherwise directed by a police
16 officer, if a traffic-control signal is out of operation or is
17 not functioning properly, including, but not limited to, a
18 signal that uses inductive loop sensors or other automated
19 technology to detect the presence of vehicles that fails to
20 detect a vehicle, vehicular traffic shall proceed as follows:

21 "(1) Vehicles facing a green or yellow signal may
22 proceed with caution as provided in subdivisions (1) and (2)
23 of subsection (a).

24 "(2) Vehicles facing a red or completely unlit
25 signal shall stop in the same manner as at a stop sign, and
26 the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable

1 after making a stop at a stop sign as provided in Section
2 32-5A-112."

3 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
4 first day of the third month following its passage and
5 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.