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# State of Minnesota

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

# H. F. No. 1781

03/03/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to transportation; making various policy changes, including authorizing

1.3 aircraft electronic attestation, defining terms, modifying injury crash reporting,

1.4 modifying legislative routes, and updating yellow traffic signal indications;

1.5 amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 161.115, subdivisions 175, 177;

1.6 169.011, subdivision 36; 169.06, subdivision 5; 169.09, subdivision 8; 360.511,

1.7 by adding a subdivision; 360.55, subdivisions 4, 4a, 8, 9.

1.8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.9 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 161.115, subdivision 175, is amended to read:

1.10 Subd. 175. **Route No. 244.** Beginning at a point on Route No. 1 ~~southerly of White Bear~~

1.11 ~~Lake 96 at or near Dellwood~~; thence extending in a general ~~easterly and northerly~~ southerly

1.12 direction to a point ~~at or near the northerly limit of Mahtomedi~~; ~~thence continuing in a~~

1.13 ~~general northerly direction to a point on Route No. 96.~~

1.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after the commissioner of

1.15 transportation notifies the revisor of statutes electronically or in writing of the effective

1.16 date.

1.17 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 161.115, subdivision 177, is amended to read:

1.18 Subd. 177. **Route No. 246.** Beginning at a point in or adjacent to Nerstrand; thence

1.19 extending in a general northerly direction to a point westerly of Dennison; thence continuing

1.20 in a general northwesterly direction to a point ~~on Route No. 1 at or~~ near 110th Street East

1.21 near Northfield.

**EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day after the commissioner of transportation notifies the revisor of statutes electronically or in writing of the effective date.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 169.011, subdivision 36, is amended to read:

Subd. 36. **Intersection.** ~~(a)~~ "Intersection" means the area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines or, if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angle may come in conflict.

~~(b) Where a highway includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of each roadway of such divided highway by an intersecting highway shall be regarded as a separate intersection. In the event such intersecting highway also includes two roadways 30 feet or more apart, then every crossing of two roadways of such highways shall be regarded as a separate intersection.~~

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 169.06, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

Subd. 5. **Traffic-control signal.** (a) Whenever traffic is controlled by traffic-control signals exhibiting different colored lights, or colored lighted arrows, successively one at a time or in combination, only the colors Green, Red, and Yellow shall be used, except for special pedestrian signals carrying a word or legend. The traffic-control signal lights or colored lighted arrows indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

(1) Green indication:

(i) Vehicular traffic facing a circular green signal may proceed straight through or turn right or left unless a sign prohibits either turn. But vehicular traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or adjacent crosswalk at the time this signal is exhibited. Vehicular traffic turning left or making a U-turn to the left shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles approaching from the opposite direction so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(ii) Vehicular traffic facing a green arrow signal, shown alone or in combination with another indication, may cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by the arrow, or other movement as permitted by other indications shown at the same time. Vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(iii) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian-control signal as provided in subdivision 6, pedestrians facing any green signal, except when the sole green signal is a turn arrow, may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked crosswalk. Every driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to such pedestrian, except that the pedestrian shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles lawfully within the intersection at the time that the green signal indication is first shown.

(2) Steady yellow indication:

(i) Vehicular traffic facing a steady circular yellow or yellow arrow signal is thereby warned that the related green movement or flashing yellow movement is being terminated or that a red indication will be exhibited immediately thereafter when vehicular traffic must not enter the intersection, except for the continued movement allowed by any green arrow indication simultaneously exhibited.

(ii) Pedestrians facing a circular yellow signal, unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian-control signal as provided in subdivision 6, are thereby advised that there is insufficient time to cross the roadway before a red indication is shown and no pedestrian shall then start to cross the roadway.

(3) Steady red indication:

(i) Vehicular traffic facing a circular red signal alone must stop at a clearly marked stop line but, if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection and shall remain standing until a green indication is shown, except as follows: (A) the driver of a vehicle stopped as close as practicable at the entrance to the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then at the entrance to the intersection in obedience to a red or stop signal, and with the intention of making a right turn may make the right turn, after stopping, unless an official sign has been erected prohibiting such movement, but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic lawfully proceeding as directed by the signal at that intersection; or (B) the driver of a vehicle on a one-way street intersecting another one-way street on which traffic moves to the left shall stop in obedience to a red or stop signal and may then make a left turn into the one-way street, unless an official sign has been erected prohibiting the movement, but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic lawfully proceeding as directed by the signal at that intersection.

(ii) Unless otherwise directed by a pedestrian-control signal as provided in subdivision 6, pedestrians facing a steady red signal alone shall not enter the roadway.

(iii) Vehicular traffic facing a steady red arrow signal, with the intention of making a movement indicated by the arrow, must stop at a clearly marked stop line but, if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection and must remain standing until a permissive signal indication permitting the movement indicated by the red arrow is displayed, except as follows: when an official sign has been erected permitting a turn on a red arrow signal, the vehicular traffic facing a red arrow signal indication is permitted to enter the intersection to turn right, or to turn left from a one-way street into a one-way street on which traffic moves to the left, after stopping, but must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic lawfully proceeding as directed by the signal at that intersection.

(b) In the event an official traffic-control signal is erected and maintained at a place other than an intersection, the provisions of this section are applicable except those which can have no application. Any stop required must be made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the stop must be made, but in the absence of any such sign or marking the stop must be made at the signal.

(c) When a traffic-control signal indication or indications placed to control a certain movement or lane are so identified by placing a sign near the indication or indications, no other traffic-control signal indication or indications within the intersection controls vehicular traffic for that movement or lane.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 169.09, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

**Subd. 8. Officer to report accident to commissioner.** (a) A peace officer who investigates in the regular course of duty an accident that is required to be reported under this section must submit an electronic or written report of the accident to the commissioner of public safety within ten days after the date of the accident. Within two business days after identification of a fatality that resulted from an accident, the reporting agency must notify the commissioner of the basic circumstances of the accident. A report or notification under this subdivision must be in the format as prescribed in subdivision 9.

(b) Accidents on streets, highways, roadways, sidewalks, shoulders, shared use paths, or any other portion of a public right-of-way must be reported under the requirements of this section if the accident results in:

(1) a fatality;

(2) ~~bodily injury to a person who, because of the injury, immediately receives medical treatment away from or at the scene of the accident;~~

(3) one or more of the motor vehicles incurring disabling damage that requires a vehicle to be transported away from the scene of the accident by tow truck or other vehicle; or

(4) damage to fixtures, infrastructure, or any other property alongside or on a highway.

(c) An accident involving a school bus, as defined in section 169.011, subdivision 71, must be reported under the requirements of this section and section 169.4511.

(d) An accident involving a commercial motor vehicle, as defined in section 169.781, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), must be reported under the requirements of this section and section 169.783.

(e) Accidents occurring on public lands or trail systems that result in the circumstances specified in paragraph (b) must be reported under the requirements of this section.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 360.511, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 23a. **Electronic attestation.** "Electronic attestation" means a statement of fact or confirmation, submitted by the owner in digital form, regarding the ownership and status of an aircraft and its compliance with applicable regulations. For purposes of this subdivision, "aircraft" includes unmanned aerial systems.

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 360.55, subdivision 4, is amended to read:

Subd. 4. **Collector's aircraft.** (a) For purposes of this subdivision:

(1) "antique aircraft" means an aircraft constructed by the original manufacturer, or its licensee, on or before December 31, 1945, with the exception of certain pre-World War II aircraft models that had only a small postwar production, such as Beechcraft Staggerwing, Fairchild 24, and Monocoupe; and

(2) "classic aircraft" means an aircraft constructed by the original manufacturer, or its licensee, on or after January 1, 1946, and has a first year of life that precedes the date of registration by at least 50 years.

(b) If an antique or classic aircraft is owned and operated solely as a collector's item, its owner ~~may~~ must list it for taxation and registration ~~as follows~~ and execute an electronic attestation or sworn affidavit stating: A sworn affidavit must be executed stating

(1) the name and address of the owner;

(2) the name and address of the ~~person from whom purchased,~~ seller;

(3) the aircraft's make, year, model number, federal aircraft registration number, and manufacturer's identification number<sub>2</sub>; and

(4) that the aircraft is owned and operated solely as a collector's item and not for general transportation or commercial operations purposes.

The electronic attestation or sworn affidavit must be ~~filed with~~ submitted to the commissioner along with a fee of \$25.

(c) Upon satisfaction that the electronic attestation or sworn affidavit is true and correct, the commissioner ~~shall~~ must issue ~~to the applicant~~ a registration certificate to the applicant. The registration certificate is valid without renewal as long as the owner operates the aircraft solely as a collector's item.

(d) ~~Should~~ If an antique or classic aircraft ~~be~~ is operated other than as a collector's item, the registration certificate becomes void, and the owner ~~shall~~ must list the aircraft for taxation and registration ~~in accordance with the other provisions of~~ under sections 360.511 to 360.67.

(e) Upon the sale of an antique or classic aircraft, the new owner must list the aircraft for taxation and registration in accordance with this subdivision, including the payment of a \$5 fee to transfer the registration to the new owner, ~~or the other provisions of~~ under sections 360.511 to 360.67, whichever is applicable.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 360.55, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:

Subd. 4a. **Recreational aircraft; classic license.** (a) An aircraft that has a base price for tax purposes under section 360.531 of \$10,000 or less, and ~~that~~ is owned and operated solely for recreational purposes, may be listed for taxation and registration by executing a an electronic attestation or sworn affidavit stating:

(1) the name and address of the owner<sub>2</sub>;

(2) the name and address of the ~~person from whom purchased,~~ seller;

(3) the aircraft's make, year, model number, federal aircraft registration number, and manufacturer's identification number<sub>2</sub>; and

(4) that the aircraft is owned and operated solely as a recreational aircraft and not for commercial operational purposes.

The electronic attestation or sworn affidavit must be ~~filed with~~ submitted to the commissioner along with an annual \$25 fee.

(b) ~~On being satisfied~~ Upon satisfaction that the electronic attestation or sworn affidavit is true and correct, the commissioner ~~shall~~ must issue ~~to the applicant~~ a registration certificate to the applicant.

(c) ~~Should~~ If the aircraft ~~be~~ is operated other than as a recreational aircraft, the owner ~~shall~~ must list the aircraft for taxation and registration and pay the appropriate registration fee under sections 360.511 to 360.67.

(d) If the aircraft is sold, the new owner ~~shall~~ must list the aircraft for taxation and registration under this subdivision, including the payment of the annual \$25 fee, or under sections 360.511 to 360.67, whichever is applicable.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 360.55, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **Agricultural aircraft.** Aircraft registered with the Federal Aviation Administration as restricted category aircraft used for agricultural purposes must be listed for taxation and registration ~~upon filing by the owner a sworn affidavit with~~. The owner must execute and submit an annual electronic attestation or sworn affidavit to the commissioner. The electronic attestation or sworn affidavit must state:

(1) the name and address of the owner;

(2) the name and address of the ~~person from whom purchased~~ seller;

(3) the aircraft's make, year, model number, federal registration number, and manufacturer's identification number; and

(4) that the aircraft is owned and operated solely for agricultural operations and purposes.

The owner ~~shall file the~~ must submit an electronic attestation or a sworn affidavit to the commissioner and pay an annual fee established under sections 360.511 to 360.67, which must not exceed \$500. ~~Should~~ If the aircraft ~~be~~ is operated other than for agricultural purposes, the owner ~~shall~~ must list the aircraft for taxation and registration under sections 360.511 to 360.67. If the aircraft is sold, the new owner ~~shall~~ must list the aircraft for taxation and registration under this subdivision or under sections 360.511 to 360.67, as applicable.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 360.55, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

Subd. 9. **Small unmanned ~~aircraft~~ aerial systems.** (a) Any small unmanned ~~aircraft~~ aerial system in which the unmanned ~~aircraft~~ system weighs less than 55 pounds at takeoff, including payload and anything affixed to the ~~aircraft~~ system, either:

(1) must be registered in the state for an annual fee of \$25; or

- 8.1 (2) is not subject to registration or an annual fee if the unmanned ~~aircraft~~ aerial system
- 8.2 is owned and operated solely for recreational purposes.
- 8.3 (b) An unmanned ~~aircraft~~ aerial system that meets the requirements under paragraph (a)
- 8.4 is exempt from aircraft registration tax under sections 360.511 to 360.67.