

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H. F. 663

**DATE:** April 2, 2001

**Version:** As Introduced

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**Subject:** Photographic Evidence of Traffic Signal Violations

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### Overview

This bill authorizes local governments to establish programs to enforce traffic signal laws with photographic evidence.

#### Section

- 1 **Citations from photographic evidence.** Allows these officers to issue citations for violations of traffic signals by mail, where the violation is detected with photographic evidence. Exempts (1) owners who present evidence that the vehicle was stolen, and (2) a vehicle lessor if the lessor keeps a record of the names and addresses of lessees.
- 2 **Photographic evidence.** Provides for use of photographic evidence in enforcing traffic signals.  
**Subd. 1. Authority.** Allows cities and urban towns to implement programs to allow peace officers to detect traffic signal violations through photographic evidence. Requires that programs:
  - (1) be limited to traffic signal enforcement only,
  - (2) issue citations only by mail,
  - (3) use photographic systems that allow the vehicle, but not occupants, to be identified,
  - (4) put notations on all such citations to the effect that violation was detected by photograph,
  - (5) require signs at intersections where cameras are used.**Subd. 2. Fines.** Allows cities and towns using the system to establish a system of fines for violations detected by photograph.
- 3 **Violations not recorded.** Prohibits the department of public safety from recording on driving records convictions for traffic signal violations obtained through photographic evidence.
- 4 **Effective date.** Makes sections 1 to 3 effective August 2, 2001.

