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Overview

This bill authorizes the State Patrol and local law enforcement to issue traffic safety diversion citations for some traffic violations following requirements established in the legislation, which provide traffic safety classes instead of typical citations administered by the courts.

Section

- 1** [169.9991] **Pretrial diversion program for certain traffic offenses.** Creates a new section authorizing a diversion program for certain traffic violations and establishes related requirements.

Subd. 1. Authority. Authorizes local law enforcement to issue citations with a pretrial diversion program option for certain traffic violations, following requirements on a local government resolution. Identifies eligible offenses, which include speeding (if over the limit by less than 15 m.p.h.), some stop sign violations, and various motor vehicle equipment violations. Requires recording the actual speed of a motorist on speeding violations.

Subd. 2. Officer's authority. Restricts authority to provide the diversion option, to apply to licensed peace officers. Prohibits a local unit of government from mandated use of the diversion option for criminal citations.

Subd. 3. Uniform citation. Provides for standardized uniform citation and diversion option forms.

Subd. 4. Offender options; eligibility. Makes the diversion program optional at

Section

the decision of the citation recipient. Prohibits use of the diversion program under some multiple violations circumstances.

Subd. 5. Traffic safety course; contents. Identifies required traffic safety course contents for the diversion program.

Subd. 6. Course fee; disbursement. Sets a \$100 program fee, provides for allocation and use of funds, and prevents a court surcharge from applying.

Subd. 7. Commercial drivers' licenses and commercial vehicles; exceptions. Prevents the diversion program from including commercial vehicles and commercial license holders.

Subd. 8. Driving records. Prevents diversion program citations from going on a driver's record.

Subd. 9. Administrative penalty reporting. Provides for tracking and reporting on course fees collected under local government diversion programs.

Subd. 10. Local preemption. Expressly preempts local units of government from establishing a diversion program outside of the traffic violations identified in this section.