

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2007 and 2008 HB1703

Introduced 2/22/2007, by Rep. Robert S. Molaro

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/11-208.3

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-208.3

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. In provisions authorizing a municipality to provide by ordinance for a program of vehicle immobilization to facilitate enforcement of parking, standing, compliance, and automated traffic law regulations, provides that a vehicle may be immobilized only if, at the time the vehicle is actually immobilized, the minimum number of final determinations of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation liability as determined by ordinance remain unpaid. Effective immediately.

LRB095 09708 DRH 29912 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

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1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing

 Section 11-208.3 as follows:
- 6 (625 ILCS 5/11-208.3) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-208.3)
 - Sec. 11-208.3. Administrative adjudication of violations of traffic regulations concerning the standing, parking, or condition of vehicles and automated traffic law violations.
 - (a) Any municipality may provide by ordinance for a system administrative adjudication of vehicular standing and parking violations and vehicle compliance violations defined in this subsection and automated traffic law violations as defined in Section 11-208.6. The administrative system shall have as its purpose the fair and efficient enforcement of municipal regulations through the administrative adjudication of automated traffic law violations and violations of municipal ordinances regulating the standing and parking of vehicles, the condition and use of vehicle equipment, and the display of wheel tax licenses within the municipality's borders. The administrative system shall only have authority to adjudicate civil offenses carrying fines not in excess of \$250 that occur after the effective date of the ordinance adopting

- such a system under this Section. For purposes of this Section,

 "compliance violation" means a violation of a municipal

 regulation governing the condition or use of equipment on a

 vehicle or governing the display of a municipal wheel tax

 license.
 - (b) Any ordinance establishing a system of administrative adjudication under this Section shall provide for:
 - (1) A traffic compliance administrator authorized to adopt, distribute and process parking, compliance, and automated traffic law violation notices and other notices required by this Section, collect money paid as fines and penalties for violation of parking and compliance ordinances and automated traffic law violations, and operate an administrative adjudication system. The traffic compliance administrator also may make a certified report to the Secretary of State under Section 6-306.5.
 - (2) A parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation notice that shall specify the date, time, and place of violation of a parking, standing, or compliance, or automated traffic law regulation; the particular regulation violated; the fine and any penalty that may be assessed for late payment, when so provided by ordinance; the vehicle make and state registration number; and the identification number of the person issuing the notice. With regard to automated traffic law violations, vehicle make shall be specified on the automated traffic

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law violation notice if the make is available and readily discernible. With regard to municipalities with a population of 1 million or more, it shall be grounds for dismissal of a parking violation if the state registration number or vehicle make specified is incorrect. violation notice shall state that the payment of indicated fine, and of any applicable penalty for late payment, shall operate as a final disposition of the violation. The notice also shall contain information as to the availability of a hearing in which the violation may be contested on its merits. The violation notice shall specify the time and manner in which a hearing may be had.

(3) Service of the parking, standing, or compliance violation notice by affixing the original or a facsimile of the notice to an unlawfully parked vehicle or by handing the notice to the operator of a vehicle if he or she is present and service of an automated traffic law violation notice by mail to the address of the registered owner of the cited vehicle as recorded with the Secretary of State within 30 days after the Secretary of State notifies the municipality or county of the identity of the owner of the vehicle, but in no event later than 90 days after the violation. A person authorized by ordinance to issue and serve parking, standing, and compliance violation notices shall certify as to the correctness of the facts entered on the violation notice by signing his or her name to the

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notice at the time of service or in the case of a notice produced by a computerized device, by signing a single certificate to be kept by the traffic compliance administrator attesting to the correctness of all notices produced by the device while it was under his or her control. In the case of an automated traffic law violation, the ordinance shall require a determination by a technician employed or contracted by the municipality or county that, based on inspection of recorded images, the motor vehicle was being operated in violation of Section 11-208.6 or a local ordinance. If the technician determines that the vehicle entered the intersection as part of a funeral procession or in order to yield the right-of-way to an emergency vehicle, a citation shall not be issued. The original or a facsimile of the violation notice or, in the case of a notice produced by a computerized device, a printed record generated by the device showing the facts entered on the notice, shall be retained by the traffic compliance administrator, and shall be a record kept in the ordinary course of business. A parking, compliance, or automated traffic law violation notice issued, signed and served in accordance with this Section, a copy of the notice, or the computer generated record shall be prima facie correct and shall be prima facie evidence of the correctness of the facts shown on the notice. The notice, copy, or computer generated record

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shall be admissible in any subsequent administrative or legal proceedings.

- (4) An opportunity for a hearing for the registered owner of the vehicle cited in the parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation notice in which the owner may contest the merits of the alleged violation, and during which formal or technical rules of evidence shall not apply; provided, however, that under Section 11-1306 of this Code the lessee of a vehicle cited in the violation notice likewise shall be provided an opportunity for a hearing of the same kind afforded the registered owner. The hearings shall be recorded, and the person conducting the hearing on behalf of the traffic compliance administrator shall be empowered to administer oaths and to secure by subpoena both the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of relevant books and papers. Persons appearing at a hearing under this Section may be represented by counsel at their expense. The ordinance may also provide for internal administrative review following the decision of the hearing officer.
- (5) Service of additional notices, sent by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, to the address of the registered owner of the cited vehicle as recorded with the Secretary of State or, if any notice to that address is returned as undeliverable, to the last known address recorded in a United States Post Office approved database,

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or, under Section 11-1306 of this Code, to the lessee of the cited vehicle at the last address known to the lessor of the cited vehicle at the time of lease or, if any notice to that address is returned as undeliverable, to the last known address recorded in a United States Post Office approved database. The service shall be deemed complete as of the date of deposit in the United States mail. The notices shall be in the following sequence and shall include but not be limited to the information specified

(i) A second notice of parking, standing, or compliance violation. This notice shall specify the date and location of the violation cited in parking, standing, or compliance violation notice, the particular regulation violated, the vehicle make and state registration number, the fine and any penalty that may be assessed for late payment when so provided by ordinance, the availability of a hearing in which the violation may be contested on its merits, and the time and manner in which the hearing may be had. The notice of violation shall also state that failure either to pay the indicated fine and any applicable penalty, or to appear at a hearing on the merits in the time and manner specified, will result in a final determination of violation liability for the cited violation in the amount of the fine or penalty

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indicated, and that, upon the occurrence of a final determination of violation liability for the failure, and the exhaustion of, or failure to exhaust, available administrative or judicial procedures for review, any unpaid fine or penalty will constitute a debt due and owing the municipality.

(ii) A notice of final determination of parking, compliance, automated traffic standing, or law violation liability. This notice shall be sent. following a final determination of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation liability and the conclusion of judicial review procedures taken under this Section. The notice shall state that the unpaid fine or penalty is a debt due and owing the municipality. The notice shall contain warnings that failure to pay any fine or penalty due and owing the municipality within the time specified may result in the municipality's filing of a petition in the Circuit Court to have the unpaid fine or penalty rendered a judgment as provided by this Section, or may result in suspension of the person's drivers license for failure to pay fines or penalties for 10 or more parking violations under Section 6-306.5 or 5 or more law violations under automated traffic 11-208.6.

(6) A Notice of impending drivers license suspension.

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This notice shall be sent to the person liable for any fine or penalty that remains due and owing on 10 or more parking violations or 5 or more unpaid automated traffic law violations. The notice shall state that failure to pay the fine or penalty owing within 45 days of the notice's date will result in the municipality notifying the Secretary of State that the person is eligible for initiation of suspension proceedings under Section 6-306.5 of this Code. The notice shall also state that the person may obtain a photostatic copy of an original ticket imposing a fine or penalty by sending a self addressed, stamped envelope to the municipality along with a request for the photostatic copy. The notice of impending drivers license suspension shall be sent by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, to the address recorded with the Secretary of State or, if any notice to that address is returned as undeliverable, to the last known address recorded in a United States Post Office approved database.

(7) Final determinations of violation liability. A final determination of violation liability shall occur following failure to pay the fine or penalty after a hearing officer's determination of violation liability and the exhaustion of or failure to exhaust any administrative review procedures provided by ordinance. Where a person fails to appear at a hearing to contest the alleged violation in the time and manner specified in a prior

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mailed notice, the hearing officer's determination of violation liability shall become final: (A) upon denial of a timely petition to set aside that determination, or (B) upon expiration of the period for filing the petition without a filing having been made.

- (8) A petition to set aside a determination of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation liability that may be filed by a person owing an unpaid fine or penalty. The petition shall be filed with and ruled upon by the traffic compliance administrator in the manner and within the time specified by ordinance. The grounds for the petition may be limited to: (A) the person not having been the owner or lessee of the cited vehicle on the date the violation notice was issued, (B) the person having already paid the fine or penalty for the violation in question, and (C) excusable failure to appear at or request a new date for a hearing. With regard to municipalities with a population of 1 million or more, it shall be grounds dismissal of a parking violation if the state registration number, or vehicle make if specified, is incorrect. After the determination of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation liability has been set aside upon a showing of just cause, the registered owner shall be provided with a hearing on the merits for that violation.
 - (9) Procedures for non-residents. Procedures by which

- persons who are not residents of the municipality may contest the merits of the alleged violation without attending a hearing.
 - (10) A schedule of civil fines for violations of vehicular standing, parking, compliance, or automated traffic law regulations enacted by ordinance pursuant to this Section, and a schedule of penalties for late payment of the fines, provided, however, that the total amount of the fine and penalty for any one violation shall not exceed \$250, except as provided in subsection (c) of Section 11-1301.3 of this Code.
 - (11) Other provisions as are necessary and proper to carry into effect the powers granted and purposes stated in this Section.
 - (c) Any municipality establishing vehicular standing, parking, compliance, or automated traffic law regulations under this Section may also provide by ordinance for a program of vehicle immobilization for the purpose of facilitating enforcement of those regulations. The program of vehicle immobilization shall provide for immobilizing any eligible vehicle upon the public way by presence of a restraint in a manner to prevent operation of the vehicle. Any ordinance establishing a program of vehicle immobilization under this Section shall provide:
- 25 (1) Criteria for the designation of vehicles eligible 26 for immobilization. A vehicle shall be eligible for

immobilization when the registered owner of the vehicle has accumulated the number of unpaid final determinations of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation liability as determined by ordinance.

- (2) A notice of impending vehicle immobilization and a right to a hearing to challenge the validity of the notice by disproving liability for the unpaid final determinations of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation liability listed on the notice.
- (2.5) A vehicle may be immobilized only if, at the time the vehicle is actually immobilized, the minimum number of final determinations of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation liability as determined by ordinance in accordance with paragraph (1) remain unpaid.
- (3) The right to a prompt hearing after a vehicle has been immobilized or subsequently towed without payment of the outstanding fines and penalties on parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violations for which final determinations have been issued. An order issued after the hearing is a final administrative decision within the meaning of Section 3-101 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (4) A post immobilization and post-towing notice advising the registered owner of the vehicle of the right to a hearing to challenge the validity of the impoundment.

- (d) Judicial review of final determinations of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violations and final administrative decisions issued after hearings regarding vehicle immobilization and impoundment made under this Section shall be subject to the provisions of the Administrative Review Law.
- (e) Any fine, penalty, or part of any fine or any penalty remaining unpaid after the exhaustion of, or the failure to exhaust, administrative remedies created under this Section and the conclusion of any judicial review procedures shall be a debt due and owing the municipality and, as such, may be collected in accordance with applicable law. Payment in full of any fine or penalty resulting from a standing, parking, compliance, or automated traffic law violation shall constitute a final disposition of that violation.
- (f) After the expiration of the period within which judicial review may be sought for a final determination of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violation, the municipality may commence a proceeding in the Circuit Court for purposes of obtaining a judgment on the final determination of violation. Nothing in this Section shall prevent a municipality from consolidating multiple final determinations of parking, standing, compliance, or automated traffic law violations against a person in a proceeding. Upon commencement of the action, the municipality shall file a certified copy or record of the final determination of parking,

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Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

(Source: P.A. 94-294, eff. 1-1-06; 94-795, eff. 5-22-06;

94-930, eff. 6-26-06; revised 8-3-06.)

becoming law. 1