

## Vehicles Safety Committee

# Filed: 3/4/2009

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#### 09600HB0642ham001

LRB096 07363 AJT 22676 a

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AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 642
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          AMENDMENT NO. . Amend House Bill 642 by replacing
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      everything after the enacting clause with the following:
          "Section 5. The Toll Highway Act is amended by changing
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      Section 10 as follows:
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          (605 ILCS 10/10) (from Ch. 121, par. 100-10)
 7
          Sec. 10. The Authority shall have power:
                  pass resolutions, make by-laws, rules
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               To
      regulations for the management, regulation and control of its
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      affairs, and to fix tolls, and to make, enact and enforce all
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      needful rules
                      and regulations in connection with the
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      construction, operation, management, care, regulation or
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      protection of its property or any toll highways, constructed or
      reconstructed hereunder.
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          (a-5) To fix, assess, and collect civil fines for a
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vehicle's operation on a toll highway without the required toll

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having been paid. The Authority may establish by rule a system civil administrative adjudication to adjudicate only alleged instances of a vehicle's operation on a toll highway without the required toll having been paid, as detected by the Authority's video or photo surveillance system. In cases in which the operator of the vehicle is not the registered vehicle owner, the establishment of ownership of the vehicle creates a rebuttable presumption that the vehicle was being operated by an agent of the registered vehicle owner. If the registered vehicle owner liable for a violation under this Section was not the operator of the vehicle at the time of the violation, the owner may maintain an action for indemnification against the operator in the circuit court. Rules establishing a system of civil administrative adjudication must provide for written notice, by first class mail or other means provided by law, to be sent no later than 30 days after the date of the alleged violation that triggers the mailing of a violation notice or notices by the Authority, to the address of the registered owner of the cited vehicle as recorded with the Secretary of State or to the lessee of the cited vehicle at the last address known to the lessor of the cited vehicle at the time of the lease, of the alleged violation and an opportunity to be heard on the question of the violation and must provide for the establishment of a toll-free telephone number to receive inquiries concerning alleged violations. The notice shall also inform the registered vehicle owner that failure to contest in

1 the manner and time provided shall be deemed an admission of

liability and that a final order of liability may be entered on

that admission. 3

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The notice shall include a statement by the Authority of how the owner may obtain a copy of any and all evidence, material, or similar information relevant to an alleged violation. If the owner requests any information relevant to an alleged violation from the Authority, the Authority must stay any action or hearing against the owner until the Authority has provided the information requested. Under no circumstances shall the owner be required to file a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain evidence, material, or similar information relevant to an alleged violation. The Authority may comply with an owner's request for information by providing a website address where the information requested is accessible through the Internet. A website accessible through the Internet used for the administration of toll violation notices shall be completed within one year of the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly and shall include the following minimum capabilities:

- (1) The capability to display any and all evidence of a toll violation or violations, which shall be accessible only by the person receiving notice of the violation and the Authority.
- 2.5 (2) The capability to dispute a toll violation or 26 violations through the Internet.

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(3) In the case of an erroneous toll violation or violations, an owner of a vehicle whose plate was mistakenly identified shall be provided by the Authority with the ability on the website to have the license plate in question flagged. All subsequent alleged violations related to the flagged license plate must be manually reviewed for accuracy by a human being so designated by the Authority before the Authority may issue said alleged toll violation or violations to the owner. In addition to the website, an owner of a vehicle whose plate was mistakenly identified and was mailed a toll violation or violations by the Authority may have their plate flagged manually by calling or mailing the Authority a request for such, and the Authority shall treat such a request in the same manner as provided herein for requests transmitted via the website.

(4) Nothing in this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly shall be construed as to supplant, change, remove, otherwise limit existing rights in statute, administrative rule, equity, or otherwise available to an alleged violator on the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly. Rather, the changes included in this amendatory Act of the 96th General Assembly shall be construed to be in addition to any other rights or remedies available to an alleged violator as of the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 96th

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### General Assembly.

A duly authorized agent of the Authority may perform or execute the preparation, certification, affirmation, mailing of the notice. A notice of violation, sworn or affirmed to or certified by a duly authorized agent of the Authority, or a facsimile of the notice, based upon an inspection of photographs, microphotographs, videotape, or other recorded images produced by a video or photo surveillance system, shall be admitted as prima facie evidence of the correctness of the facts contained in the notice or facsimile. Only civil fines, along with the corresponding outstanding toll, and costs may be imposed by administrative adjudication. A fine may be imposed under this paragraph only if a violation is established by a preponderance of the evidence. Judicial review of all final orders of the Authority under this paragraph shall be conducted in the circuit court of the county in which the administrative decision was rendered in accordance with the Administrative Review Law.

Any outstanding toll, fine, additional late payment fine, other sanction, or costs imposed, or part of any fine, other sanction, or costs imposed, remaining unpaid after the exhaustion of, or the failure to exhaust, judicial review procedures under the Administrative Review Law are a debt due and owing the Authority and may be collected in accordance with applicable law. After expiration of the period in which judicial review under the Administrative Review Law may be

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sought, unless stayed by a court of competent jurisdiction, a final order of the Authority under this subsection (a-5) may be enforced in the same manner as a judgment entered by a court of competent jurisdiction. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Authority may, with the approval of the Attorney General, retain a law firm or law firms with expertise in the collection of government fines and debts for the purpose of collecting fines, costs, and other moneys due under this subsection (a-5).

A system of civil administrative adjudication may also provide for a program of vehicle immobilization, tow, or impoundment for the purpose of facilitating enforcement of any final order or orders of the Authority under this subsection (a-5) that result in a finding or liability for 5 or more violations after expiration of the period in which judicial review under the Administrative Review Law may be sought. The registered vehicle owner of a vehicle immobilized, towed, or impounded for nonpayment of a final order of the Authority under this subsection (a-5) shall have the right to request a hearing before the Authority's civil administrative adjudicatory system to challenge the validity of immobilization, tow, or impoundment. This hearing, however, shall not constitute a readjudication of the merits of previously adjudicated notices. Judicial review of all final orders of the Authority under this subsection (a-5) shall be conducted in the circuit court of the county in which the

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administrative decision was rendered in accordance with the
Administrative Review Law.

No commercial entity that is the lessor of a vehicle under a written lease agreement shall be liable for an administrative notice of violation for toll evasion issued under this subsection (a-5) involving that vehicle during the period of the lease if the lessor provides a copy of the leasing agreement to the Authority within 21 days of the issue date on the notice of violation. The leasing agreement also must contain a provision or addendum informing the lessee that the lessee is liable for payment of all tolls and any fines for toll evasion. Each entity must also post a sign at the leasing counter notifying the lessee of that liability. The copy of the leasing agreement provided to the Authority must contain the name, address, and driver's license number of the lessee, as well as the check-out and return dates and times of the vehicle and the vehicle license plate number and vehicle make and model.

As used in this subsection (a-5), "lessor" includes commercial leasing and rental entities but does not include public passenger vehicle entities.

The Authority shall establish an amnesty program for violations adjudicated under this subsection (a-5). Under the program, any person who has an outstanding notice of violation for toll evasion or a final order of a hearing officer for toll evasion dated prior to the effective date of this amendatory

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Act of the 94th General Assembly and who pays to the Authority the full percentage amounts listed in this paragraph remaining due on the notice of violation or final order of the hearing officer and the full fees and costs paid by the Authority to the Secretary of State relating to suspension proceedings, if applicable, on or before 5:00 p.m., Central Standard Time, of the 60th day after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly shall not be required to pay more than the listed percentage of the original fine amount and outstanding toll as listed on the notice of violation or final order of the hearing officer and the full fees and costs paid by the Authority to the Secretary of State relating to suspension proceedings, if applicable. The payment percentage scale shall be as follows: a person with 25 or fewer violations shall be eligible for amnesty upon payment of 50% of the original fine amount and the outstanding tolls; a person with more than 25 but fewer than 51 violations shall be eliqible for amnesty upon payment of 60% of the original fine amount and the outstanding tolls; and a person with 51 or more violations shall be eligible for amnesty upon payment of 75% of the original fine amount and the outstanding tolls. In such a situation, the Executive Director of the Authority or his or her designee is authorized and directed to waive any late fine amount above the applicable percentage of the original fine amount. Partial payment of the amount due shall not be a basis to extend the amnesty payment deadline nor shall it act to

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relieve the person of liability for payment of the late fine amount. In order to receive amnesty, the full amount of the applicable percentage of the original fine amount outstanding toll remaining due on the notice of violation or final order of the hearing officer and the full fees and costs paid by the Authority to the Secretary of State relating to suspension proceedings, if applicable, must be paid in full by 5:00 p.m., Central Standard Time, of the 60th day after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly. This amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly has no retroactive effect with regard to payments already tendered to the Authority that were full payments or payments in an amount greater than the applicable percentage, and this Act shall not be the basis for either a refund or a credit. This amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly does not apply to toll evasion citations issued by the Illinois State Police or other authorized law enforcement agencies and for which payment may be due to or through the clerk of the circuit court. The Authority shall adopt rules as necessary to implement the provisions of this amendatory Act of the 94th General Assembly. The Authority, by a resolution of the Board of Directors, shall have the discretion to implement similar amnesty programs in Authority, at its discretion the future. The consultation with the Attorney General, is further authorized to settle an administrative fine or penalty if it determines that settling for less than the full amount is in the best

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1	interests of the Authority after taking into account the
2	following factors: (1) the merits of the Authority's claim
3	against the respondent; (2) the amount that can be collected
4	relative to the administrative fine or penalty owed by the
5	respondent; (3) the cost of pursuing further enforcement or
6	collection action against the respondent; (4) the likelihood of
7	collecting the full amount owed; and (5) the burden on the
8	judiciary. The provisions in this Section may be extended to
9	other toll facilities in the State of Illinois through a duly
10	executed agreement between the Authority and the operator of
11	the toll facility.

- 12 <u>(a-10)</u> It shall be an affirmative defense to any alleged

  13 <u>violation if the Authority fails to comply with the</u>

  14 requirements of subsection (a-5).
- 15 (b) To prescribe rules and regulations applicable to
  16 traffic on highways under the jurisdiction of the Authority,
  17 concerning:
  - (1) Types of vehicles permitted to use such highways or parts thereof, and classification of such vehicles;
  - (2) Designation of the lanes of traffic to be used by the different types of vehicles permitted upon said highways;
    - (3) Stopping, standing, and parking of vehicles;
- 24 (4) Control of traffic by means of police officers or 25 traffic control signals;
  - (5) Control or prohibition of processions, convoys,

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and assemblages of vehicles and persons;

- (6) Movement of traffic in one direction only on designated portions of said highways;
- (7) Control of the access, entrance, and exit of vehicles and persons to and from said highways; and
- (8) Preparation, location and installation of all traffic signs; and to prescribe further rules and regulations applicable to such traffic, concerning matters not provided for either in the foregoing enumeration or in the Illinois Vehicle Code. Notice of such rules and regulations shall be posted conspicuously and displayed at appropriate points and at reasonable intervals along said highways, by clearly legible markers or signs, to provide notice of the existence of such rules and regulations to persons traveling on said highways. At each toll station, the Authority shall make available, free of charge, pamphlets containing all of such rules and regulations.
- (c) The Authority, in fixing the rate for tolls for the privilege of using the said toll highways, is authorized and directed, in fixing such rates, to base the same upon annual estimates to be made, recorded and filed with the Authority. Said estimates shall include the following: The estimated total amount of the use of the toll highways; the estimated amount of the revenue to be derived therefrom, which said revenue, when added to all other receipts and income, will be sufficient to pay the expense of maintaining and operating said toll

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highways, including the administrative expenses of the Authority, and to discharge all obligations of the Authority as they become due and payable.

accept from any municipality or political subdivision any lands, easements or rights in land needed for the operation, construction, relocation or maintenance of any toll highways, with or without payment therefor, and in its discretion to reimburse any such municipality or political subdivision out of its funds for any cost or expense incurred in the acquisition of land, easements or rights in land, in connection with the construction and relocation of the said toll highways, widening, extending roads, streets or avenues in connection therewith, or for the construction of any roads or streets forming extension to and connections with or between any toll highways, or for the cost or expense of widening, grading, surfacing or improving any existing streets or roads or the construction of any streets and roads forming extensions or connections with any toll highways constructed, relocated, operated, maintained or regulated hereunder by the Authority. Where property owned by a municipality or political subdivision is necessary to the construction of an approved toll highway, if the Authority cannot reach an agreement with such municipality or political subdivision and if the use to which the property is being put in the hands of the municipality or political subdivision is not essential to the existence or the administration of such municipality or

- 1 political subdivision, the Authority may acquire the property
- by condemnation. 2
- (Source: P.A. 94-636, eff. 8-22-05.) 3
- 4 Section 10. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
- 5 changing Section 11-208.6 as follows:
- (625 ILCS 5/11-208.6) 6
- 7 Sec. 11-208.6. Automated traffic law enforcement system.
- (a) As used in this Section, "automated traffic law 8
- 9 enforcement system" means a device with one or more motor
- vehicle sensors working in conjunction with a red light signal 10
- 11 to produce recorded images of motor vehicles entering an
- intersection against a red signal indication in violation of 12
- 13 Section 11-306 of this Code or a similar provision of a local
- 14 ordinance.
- An automated traffic law enforcement system is a system, in 15
- 16 a municipality or county operated by a governmental agency,
- that produces a recorded image of a motor vehicle's violation 17
- 18 of a provision of this Code or a local ordinance and is
- 19 designed to obtain a clear recorded image of the vehicle and
- 20 the vehicle's license plate. The recorded image must also
- 21 display the time, date, and location of the violation.
- 22 (b) As used in this Section, "recorded images" means images
- 23 recorded by an automated traffic law enforcement system on:
- 24 (1) 2 or more photographs;

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- (2) 2 or more microphotographs; 1
- (3) 2 or more electronic images; or 2
- 3 (4) a video recording showing the motor vehicle and, on at least one image or portion of the recording, clearly 4 5 identifying the registration plate number of the motor vehicle. 6
  - (c) A county or municipality, including a home rule county or municipality, may not use an automated traffic law enforcement system to provide recorded images of a motor vehicle for the purpose of recording its speed. The regulation of the use of automated traffic law enforcement systems to record vehicle speeds is an exclusive power and function of the State. This subsection (c) is a denial and limitation of home rule powers and functions under subsection (h) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois Constitution.
  - (d) For each violation of a provision of this Code or a ordinance recorded by an automatic traffic system, the county or municipality having enforcement jurisdiction shall issue a written notice of the violation to the registered owner of the vehicle as the alleged violator. The notice shall be delivered to the registered owner of the vehicle, by mail, within 30 days after the Secretary of State notifies the municipality or county of the identity of the <del>owner of the vehicle, but</del> in no event later than 30 <del>90</del> days after the violation.

The notice shall include:

1	(1) the name and address of the registered owner of the
2	vehicle;
3	(2) the registration number of the motor vehicle
4	involved in the violation;
5	(3) the violation charged;
6	(4) the location where the violation occurred;
7	(5) the date and time of the violation;
8	(6) a copy of any and all evidence, material, or
9	similar information relevant to the alleged violation the
10	recorded images;
11	(7) the amount of the civil penalty imposed and the
12	date by which the civil penalty should be paid;
13	(8) a statement that recorded images are evidence of a
14	violation of a red light signal;
15	(9) a warning that failure to pay the civil penalty or
16	to contest liability in a timely manner is an admission of
17	liability and may result in a suspension of the driving
18	privileges of the registered owner of the vehicle; and
19	(10) a statement that the person may elect to proceed
20	by:
21	(A) paying the fine; or
22	(B) challenging the charge in court, by mail, or by
23	administrative hearing.
24	(d-1) Under no circumstances shall the registered owner be
25	required to file a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain
26	evidence, material, or similar information relevant to an

## alleged violation.

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- (d-3) A municipality may comply with item (6) of subsection 2
- (d) of this Section by providing a website address where the 3
- 4 required information is accessible through the Internet.
- 5 (d-5) It shall be an affirmative defense to any alleged
- 6 violation if the county or municipality having jurisdiction
- fails to comply with the requirements of subsection (d). 7
- 8 (e) If a person charged with a traffic violation, as a
- 9 result of an automated traffic law enforcement system, does not
- 10 pay or successfully contest the civil penalty resulting from
- 11 that violation, the Secretary of State shall suspend the
- driving privileges of the registered owner of the vehicle under 12
- 13 Section 6-306.5 of this Code for failing to pay any fine or
- penalty due and owing as a result of 5 violations of the 14
- 15 automated traffic law enforcement system.
- 16 (f) Based on inspection of recorded images produced by an
- automated traffic law enforcement system, a notice alleging 17
- that the violation occurred shall be evidence of the facts 18
- 19 contained in the notice and admissible in any proceeding
- 20 alleging a violation under this Section.
- (g) Recorded images made by an automatic traffic law 21
- 22 enforcement system are confidential and shall be made available
- 23 only to the alleged violator and governmental and law
- 24 enforcement agencies for purposes of adjudicating a violation
- 25 of this Section, for statistical purposes, or for other
- 26 governmental purposes. Any recorded image evidencing a

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- violation of this Section, however, may be admissible in any proceeding resulting from the issuance of the citation.
  - (h) The court or hearing officer may consider in defense of a violation:
    - (1) that the motor vehicle or registration plates of the motor vehicle were stolen before the violation occurred and not under the control of or in the possession of the owner at the time of the violation;
    - (2) that the driver of the vehicle passed through the intersection when the light was red either (i) in order to yield the right-of-way to an emergency vehicle or (ii) as part of a funeral procession; and
    - (3) any other evidence or issues provided by municipal or county ordinance.
    - (i) To demonstrate that the motor vehicle or the registration plates were stolen before the violation occurred and were not under the control or possession of the owner at the time of the violation, the owner must submit proof that a report concerning the stolen motor vehicle or registration plates was filed with a law enforcement agency in a timely manner.
    - (j) Unless the driver of the motor vehicle received a Uniform Traffic Citation from a police officer at the time of the violation, the motor vehicle owner is subject to a civil penalty not exceeding \$100, plus an additional penalty of not more than \$100 for failure to pay the original penalty in a

- 1 timely manner, if the motor vehicle is recorded by an automated
- 2 traffic law enforcement system. A violation for which a civil
- penalty is imposed under this Section is not a violation of a 3
- 4 traffic regulation governing the movement of vehicles and may
- 5 not be recorded on the driving record of the owner of the
- 6 vehicle.
- 7 (k) An intersection equipped with an automated traffic law
- 8 enforcement system must be posted with a sign visible to
- 9 approaching traffic indicating that the intersection is being
- 10 monitored by an automated traffic law enforcement system.
- 11 (1) The compensation paid for an automated traffic law
- enforcement system must be based on the value of the equipment 12
- 13 or the services provided and may not be based on the number of
- traffic citations issued or the revenue generated by the 14
- 15 system.
- 16 (m) This Section applies only to the counties of Cook,
- DuPage, Kane, Lake, Madison, McHenry, St. Clair, and Will and 17
- 18 to municipalities located within those counties.
- (Source: P.A. 94-795, eff. 5-22-06.) 19
- 20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
- 21 becoming law.".