

3/20/02 Rereferred To: Transportation

FEB 21 2002
Place On Calendar

HOUSE FILE 2498
BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2369)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a pilot project to place flashing traffic
2 control signals at certain intersections on highways in the
3 state.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2498

1 Section 1. PILOT PROJECT -- PLACEMENT OF FLASHING TRAFFIC
2 SIGNALS. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 321.252
3 and 321.257, the state department of transportation shall
4 request approval from the federal highway administration and
5 if such approval is received, shall establish a pilot project
6 to evaluate the effectiveness of programming traffic control
7 signals at intersections so that the signals provide a green
8 light that flashes three times, at intervals selected by the
9 department, prior to turning yellow and then red. The
10 department may consider intersections in the state with
11 traffic signals where there have been increased rates of
12 traffic citations or traffic accidents resulting from the
13 failure to yield or to obey traffic control signals at the
14 intersections, in determining which intersections shall be
15 selected for the pilot project. If intersections selected by
16 the department for the pilot project are under the
17 jurisdiction of a governmental subdivision, the department
18 shall facilitate programming of the traffic control signals in
19 coordination with that governmental subdivision. The
20 department shall evaluate the impact of the pilot study on
21 driving habits of the public and shall submit a report to the
22 general assembly on or before December 1, 2005, regarding the
23 pilot project and the department's recommendations regarding
24 whether to continue or expand the project.

25 EXPLANATION

26 This bill requires the state department of transportation
27 to request federal approval, and if such approval is obtained,
28 to establish a pilot project that evaluates the effectiveness
29 of programming traffic control signals at intersections in the
30 state so that the signals provide a green light that flashes
31 three times, at intervals selected by the department, before
32 turning yellow and then red. The department may consider
33 intersections in the state with traffic control signals where
34 there have been increased rates of traffic citations or
35 traffic accidents resulting from the failure to yield or to

1 obey traffic control signals at the intersections, in
2 determining which intersections shall be selected for the
3 pilot project. If the intersections chosen by the department
4 for the pilot project are under the jurisdiction of a
5 governmental subdivision, the department shall facilitate
6 programming of the traffic control signals in coordination
7 with that governmental subdivision. The department shall
8 evaluate the impact of the pilot project on driving habits of
9 the public and submit a report to the general assembly on or
10 before December 1, 2005, regarding the pilot project and the
11 department's recommendations concerning the continuation or
12 expansion of the project.

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Legislative Fiscal Bureau

Fiscal Note

HF 2498 – Flashing Green Lights (LSB 5953 HV)

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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

House File 2498 requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to request approval from the Federal Highway Administration to establish a pilot project that evaluates the effectiveness of programming traffic control signals at intersections.

Assumptions

1. The number of intersections used in the pilot project will depend on the extent of the study and the requirements of the Federal Highway Traffic Administration. A minimum of five intersections would be used.
2. The cost of modifying existing traffic signals at each intersection would range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 per intersection.
3. The cost for the contract to evaluate the pilot project would range from \$30,000 to \$50,000.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of HF 2498 would be an increase in expenditures of between \$35,000 and \$100,000. Funding would come from the following sources:

- Iowa Traffic Safety Improvement Program
- Iowa Highway Research Board
- Federal Highway Administration funds

Source

Department of Transportation

/s/ Dennis C Prouty

March 18, 2002

The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.
