SENATE FILE 2408 BY COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 489) (SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1180)

A BILL FOR

1	An	Act relating to automated traffic systems, including for
2		traffic law enforcement and for capture of registration
3		plate images, providing for the use of associated revenue
4		for length of service award programs, making appropriations,
5		providing penalties, and including effective date
6		provisions.
7	BE	IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 DIVISION I AUTOMATED OR REMOTE SYSTEMS FOR TRAFFIC LAW ENFORCEMENT -2 AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION PLATE READERS 3 4 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 321P.1 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise 5 6 requires: 1. "Automated or remote system for traffic law enforcement" 7 8 or "system" means a camera or other optical device designed to 9 work in conjunction with an official traffic control signal or 10 speed measuring device to detect motor vehicles being operated 11 in violation of traffic laws, the use of which results in the 12 issuance of citations sent through the mail or by electronic 13 means. 14 "Critical traffic safety issues" include traffic 2. 15 violations resulting in a traffic collision or accident and 16 traffic collisions and accidents resulting in serious injury or 17 death occurring at a location. "Department" means the state department of 18 3. 19 transportation. 20 4. "Local authority" means a county or municipality 21 having authority to adopt local police regulations under the 22 Constitution of the State of Iowa and laws of this state. 23 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 321P.2 Permit required — local 24 ordinances. 25 1. A person shall not use an automated or remote system 26 for traffic law enforcement unless authorized under this 27 chapter. A local authority shall not adopt, enforce, or 28 otherwise administer an ordinance authorizing the use of a 29 system, and shall not use a system, unless the local authority 30 holds a valid permit to use a system at the system's location. 31 Notwithstanding section 331.302, subsection 6, and section 32 380.3, the governing body of a local authority that is 33 considering an ordinance to authorize or implement traffic law 34 enforcement by automated or remote systems shall not suspend 35 the requirements of section 331.302, subsection 6, or section

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1 380.3, as applicable.

2. A local authority may apply for a permit by submitting 2 3 an application to the department in a manner determined by 4 the department. The department may approve or disapprove 5 the application for a permit based on the department's 6 determination that a system is appropriate and necessary and 7 the least restrictive means to address the critical traffic 8 safety issues at a location. The department shall only issue 9 one permit for a local authority, which shall set forth all 10 locations at which a local authority is authorized to use a 11 system. A local authority may submit an application to the 12 department to update the local authority's permit with a new 13 location in the same manner and with the same information as 14 required for the initial permit. An application for a permit 15 must contain all of the following for a location at which the 16 local authority intends to operate a system:

17 a. Records detailing the number and description of traffic 18 violations at the location, which shall be compiled and 19 maintained by the local authority for at least one year prior 20 to the installation of the system and for each year the system 21 is in operation. The records shall be considered public 22 records for purposes of chapter 22.

23 b. Records detailing the number and severity of traffic24 collisions and accidents occurring at the location.

25 c. An analysis of existing traffic speed data, posted speed 26 limits, traffic volume data, and intersection and roadway 27 measurements of the location. The analysis must demonstrate 28 to the department that existing speed restrictions and traffic 29 control signal timing are appropriate and must describe how 30 the speed restrictions and traffic control signal timing were 31 established.

32 *d.* The proposed cause of critical traffic safety issues at 33 the location.

34 *e.* Alternative methods to improve traffic safety at the 35 location that the local authority has implemented or has

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1 considered but declined to implement. Alternative methods
2 to improve traffic safety may include but are not limited to
3 changes relating to law enforcement practices, roadway or
4 intersection design, traffic control devices used, and public
5 education campaigns.

6 f. Details of discussions, if any, held with an entity that 7 has resources which may aid the reduction of traffic collisions 8 and accidents caused at the location by failure to obey speed 9 restrictions or traffic control signals and subsequent actions 10 taken by the local authority.

11 g. An explanation detailing the reasons that the use of a 12 system at the location is appropriate and necessary and the 13 least restrictive means to address the critical traffic safety 14 issues.

15 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. 321P.3 Use limited.

16 1. A local authority shall not use an automated or remote 17 system for traffic law enforcement to issue a citation for 18 a traffic violation unless the violation is for any of the 19 following:

20 *a.* Failure to yield or stop at an intersection controlled by 21 a traffic control signal.

22 b. Failure to yield or stop at a railroad crossing.

23 c. Exceeding the speed limit by more than ten miles per 24 hour.

25 2. A local authority with a population of twenty thousand or 26 less based on the most recent federal decennial census shall 27 not use a mobile system to issue a citation for a traffic 28 violation. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to 29 chapter 17A otherwise authorizing and regulating the operation 30 of mobile systems, taking into consideration a mobile system's 31 mobility, flexible usage, and the needs of a local authority to 32 control traffic speed to address critical traffic safety issues 33 at a location. However, the rules shall not authorize the use 34 of a mobile system other than in neighborhoods, construction 35 zones, school zones, including collegiate zones, and locations

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1 where traffic enforcement is difficult or dangerous to enforce
2 by alternative methods.

3 3. A local authority, regardless of its population, may 4 issue a warning memorandum to the owner of a vehicle that was 5 operated in violation of a traffic law if the violation was 6 detected by an automated or remote system for traffic law 7 enforcement, including a mobile system.

8 Sec. 4. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 321P.4 Automatic registration plate 9 readers — data retention limited.

10 1. The operator of an automatic registration plate reader 11 or any associated data storage device shall permanently delete 12 from the plate reader and storage device, as applicable, every 13 image of a vehicle registration plate captured by the plate 14 reader, and any other accompanying data, no later than thirty 15 days after the image was captured.

16 2. Prior to deletion under subsection 1, an image of 17 a vehicle registration plate captured by an automatic 18 registration plate reader, and any other accompanying data, 19 may be copied and stored by a law enforcement agency if the 20 image and data are relevant to an ongoing criminal case or 21 investigation. The law enforcement agency shall maintain 22 the copied registration plate image and accompanying data in 23 accordance with the agency's evidence retention policies. 24 Copies maintained by the law enforcement agency are not subject 25 to subsection 1.

3. For purposes of this section, "automatic registration plate reader" or "plate reader" means a camera or other optical device designed or programmed to automatically detect a vehicle's registration plate, or to automatically capture or store an image of a vehicle's registration plate and any accompanying data.

32 4. A person who violates subsection 1 commits a simple33 misdemeanor.

34 Sec. 5. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 321P.5 Notice — signage and reports.
35 1. *a*. A local authority shall not operate an automated or

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1 remote system for traffic law enforcement at a fixed location 2 unless permanent signs meeting the requirements as specified in 3 the department manual on uniform traffic-control devices and 4 giving notice of the system are erected at least five hundred 5 feet but not more than one thousand feet along the approach of 6 the highway where the system is used.

b. A local authority shall not operate a mobile automated or remote system for traffic law enforcement unless permanent signs meeting the requirements as specified in the department manual on uniform traffic-control devices and giving notice of the local authority's use of a mobile system within the boundaries of the local authority are posted at every location where a highway enters the boundaries of the local authority. *c.* Signs required under this subsection shall be erected by the local authority at the local authority's expense at least thirty days prior to a system enforcing any detected violations.

18 2. A local authority using a system shall submit to the 19 department an annual report by March 1 of each year detailing 20 the number of traffic collisions and accidents that occurred at 21 each location where a system is in use, the number of citations 22 issued for each system during the previous calendar year, and 23 any other relevant information about the systems that the local 24 authority deems appropriate. The local authority shall post 25 the report on the local authority's internet site, if the local 26 authority has an internet site.

27 Sec. 6. NEW SECTION. 321P.6 Enforcement.

1. A local authority shall not issue a citation or warning memorandum for a violation detected by a system until a peace officer of the local authority, or an individual trained and certified by the local authority, has reviewed and approved the recorded photograph or video to affirm a traffic violation occurred.

34 2. *a.* For a violation other than an excessive speed 35 violation, the amount of the fine imposed by a citation

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1 resulting from a violation detected by a system shall not 2 exceed the amount of the scheduled fine for the violation under 3 section 805.8A.

4 b. For an excessive speed violation detected by a system 5 other than as provided in paragraph c'', the fine shall not 6 exceed the following amounts:

7 (1) Seventy-five dollars for speed greater than ten miles 8 per hour in excess of the limit but not more than twenty miles 9 per hour in excess of the limit.

10 (2) One hundred dollars for speed greater than twenty miles 11 per hour in excess of the limit but not more than twenty-five 12 miles per hour in excess of the limit.

13 (3) Two hundred fifty dollars for speed greater than 14 twenty-five miles per hour in excess of the limit but not more 15 than thirty miles per hour in excess of the limit.

16 (4) Five hundred dollars for speed greater than thirty miles 17 per hour in excess of the limit.

18 c. For an excessive speed violation detected by a system in 19 a road work zone, as defined in section 321.1, the fine shall 20 not exceed the following amounts:

(1) One hundred fifty dollars for speed greater than ten
22 miles per hour in excess of the limit but not more than twenty
23 miles per hour in excess of the limit.

(2) Two hundred dollars for speed greater than twenty miles
25 per hour in excess of the limit but not more than twenty-five
26 miles per hour in excess of the limit.

27 (3) Five hundred dollars for speed greater than twenty-five
28 miles per hour in excess of the limit but not more than thirty
29 miles per hour in excess of the limit.

30 (4) One thousand dollars for speed greater than thirty miles 31 per hour in excess of the limit.

32 3. A system not in compliance with this chapter shall not 33 be used to detect violations. A citation issued while the 34 system is not in compliance with this chapter is void and 35 unenforceable.

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4. A violation detected by an automated or remote system
 for traffic law enforcement is a civil infraction. Such
 a violation shall not be considered by the department of
 transportation for purposes of driver's license sanctions,
 and shall not be considered by an insurer for purposes of a
 person's automobile insurance rates. The fine associated with
 a citation issued by a local authority as the result of the use
 of a system must be a civil penalty.

9 Sec. 7. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 321P.7 Liability for violations 10 detected.

11 1. A citation for a violation detected by an automated or 12 remote system for traffic law enforcement shall be issued to 13 the owner of the identified motor vehicle.

14 2. a. Notwithstanding subsection 1, a local authority shall 15 provide the owner of a motor vehicle who receives a citation 16 for a violation detected by a system with an opportunity 17 to submit evidence that the owner was not operating the 18 motor vehicle at the time of the violation. As part of the 19 proceeding, the owner shall provide the name and address of the 20 person who was operating the motor vehicle at the time of the 21 violation.

22 b. Notwithstanding subsection 1, a citation issued to the 23 owner of a motor vehicle may be amended and issued to the 24 person identified under paragraph a'' who was operating the 25 motor vehicle.

3. For purposes of this section, "owner" means a person who holds the legal title to a motor vehicle. However, if the motor vehicle is the subject of a security agreement with a right of possession in the debtor, the debtor is deemed the owner for purposes of this section, or if the motor vehicle is leased as defined in section 321.493, the lessee is deemed the owner for purposes of this section.

33 Sec. 8. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 321P.8 Revenue — disbursement and 34 retention.

35 1. A local authority that operates an automated or remote

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1 system for traffic law enforcement under this chapter shall 2 remit all of the following amounts received as a result of the 3 use of the system, not including the cost to install, operate, 4 and maintain the system, monthly to the treasurer of state:

5 *a.* Ten percent of the moneys shall be deposited in the 6 length of service award program grant fund created in section 7 100B.52.

8 b. Five percent of the moneys shall be deposited in the 9 general fund of the state and are appropriated to the Iowa law 10 enforcement academy established under chapter 80B to provide 11 training, certification, and recertification of officers.

12 2. A local authority shall not use the remaining moneys 13 retained by the local authority under subsection 1 other than 14 for any of the following purposes:

15 a. To fund transportation infrastructure improvement 16 projects.

17 b. To offset costs incurred relating to the operation of a18 police department or fire department.

19 Sec. 9. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 321P.9 Installation and maintenance.
20 1. A local authority shall install a system in a manner that
21 minimizes the effect of camera flash on drivers, if a camera
22 flash is used.

23 2. An automated or remote system for traffic law enforcement 24 must only record a photograph or video of the rear of a vehicle 25 and the vehicle's registration plate while the vehicle is used 26 to commit an alleged traffic violation. A local authority 27 shall not install a system such that the system's camera is 28 placed to capture the front of a motor vehicle or the face of 29 any person in the vehicle being recorded. In accordance with 30 section 321P.6, subsection 3, a citation issued by a system 31 that captures the front of a motor vehicle or the face of any 32 person in the vehicle is void and unenforceable.

33 3. A system must verify its internal calibrations daily, and 34 a person trained in the calibration of the system shall conduct 35 a monthly calibration.

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4. A local authority operating a system shall maintain
 a monthly log detailing whether a person trained in the
 3 calibration of the system successfully performed the monthly
 4 calibrations and whether the system successfully performed the
 5 daily internal calibrations.

5. The log and documentation of the calibrations required
7 under this section are admissible in any court proceeding
8 relating to a violation detected by the system.

9 6. If a daily or monthly calibration is not successfully 10 performed, the system shall not operate until a successful 11 calibration is subsequently performed.

DIVISION II

12

13

EXISTING SYSTEMS

14 Sec. 10. EXISTING SYSTEMS.

15 1. A local authority using an automated or remote system for 16 traffic law enforcement prior to January 1, 2024, may submit 17 to the department of transportation by July 1, 2024, a list 18 of system locations and justifications for placement and use 19 of the systems at the locations in conformance with section 20 321P.2, as enacted by this Act, to the extent practicable, 21 as determined by the department. The department shall, by 22 October 1, 2024, issue a permit as provided in section 321P.2, 23 as enacted by this Act, to a local authority that provided 24 valid submissions in accordance with this subsection. A local 25 authority using a system prior to January 1, 2024, may continue 26 to use the system in the same manner and at the same locations 27 as the system was used on or before January 1, 2024, during 28 the period of time between the local authority's submission to 29 the department and the date the department issues the permit 30 to the local authority, unless the system is a mobile system 31 prohibited under section 321P.3, as enacted by this Act. If, 32 on October 1, 2024, a local authority has not been issued a 33 permit by the department as a result of a submission that was 34 not timely filed, or due to a timely filed submission that did 35 not otherwise comply with this subsection, the local authority

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1 shall cease using all systems until the local authority obtains
2 a permit from the department pursuant to section 321P.2, as
3 enacted by this Act.

A local authority using an automated or remote system
for traffic law enforcement at a location for the first time
on or after January 1, 2024, shall not be issued a permit by
the department of transportation pursuant to section 321P.2, as
enacted by this Act, before July 1, 2026.

9 Sec. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act, being 10 deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment. 11 DIVISION III

12

LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAMS

13 Sec. 12. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. 100B.51 Length of service award 14 programs — authorization.

15 The governing body of a municipality, as defined in section 16 100B.21, is authorized to establish a length of service award 17 program for volunteer fire fighters as defined in section 18 85.61, emergency medical care providers as defined in section 19 147A.1 who are volunteers, and reserve peace officers as 20 defined in section 80D.1A. The program shall provide length 21 of service awards, as described in section 457(e)(11) of the 22 Internal Revenue Code, to volunteer fire fighters, volunteer 23 emergency medical care providers, and reserve peace officers 24 serving a municipality that elects to establish a program. The 25 program shall be designed to treat awards from the program as 26 a tax-deferred benefit under the Internal Revenue Code. The 27 governing body of the municipality shall, in consultation with 28 the chief or other person in command of the fire department 29 and police department serving the municipality, as applicable, 30 adopt guidelines providing for eligibility requirements for 31 participation by volunteer fire fighters, volunteer emergency 32 medical care providers, and reserve peace officers, minimum 33 vesting requirements, distribution requirements, and such other 34 guidelines as deemed necessary to operate the program. 35 Sec. 13. NEW SECTION. 100B.52 Length of service award

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1 program grant fund — appropriation.

1. A length of service award program grant fund is created 2 3 in the state treasury under the control of the department of 4 revenue. The fund shall consist of all moneys appropriated to 5 the fund.

2. Moneys in the length of service award program grant fund 6 7 are appropriated to the department of revenue for the purpose 8 of providing grants to municipalities that have established 9 a length of service award program as described in section 10 100B.51 to provide contributions to the program on behalf 11 of participants in the program. The department of revenue 12 shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A establishing a grant 13 application process. The grant process must provide for up 14 to a dollar-for-dollar funding match from a municipality that 15 has established a length of service award program. The grant 16 process must allow a municipality to use moneys received to 17 fund the program from gifts, devises, bequests, or any other 18 source for purposes of providing the funding match required by 19 this subsection.

20 Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2, interest or 3. 21 earnings on moneys deposited in the fund shall be credited to 22 the fund. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys credited to the 23 fund shall not revert at the close of a fiscal year. EXPLANATION

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The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with 25 26 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

AUTOMATED TRAFFIC SYSTEMS. 27 This bill creates a new Code 28 chapter 321P which regulates the use of automated or remote 29 systems for traffic law enforcement (systems). A system is a 30 camera or other optical device designed to work in conjunction 31 with an official traffic control signal or speed measuring 32 device to detect motor vehicles being operated in violation 33 of traffic laws, the use of which results in the issuance of 34 citations sent through the mail or by electronic means. 35 The bill requires local authorities to hold a valid permit

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1 from the department of transportation (DOT) before using a 2 system or adopting, enforcing, or otherwise administering an 3 ordinance authorizing the use of a system. The bill prohibits 4 the governing body of a local authority that is considering an 5 ordinance to authorize or implement systems from suspending 6 the requirement to meet and vote twice on the ordinance before 7 final passage, as is allowed under current law.

8 A local authority may apply for a permit by submitting an 9 application to the DOT. The DOT may approve or disapprove the 10 application based on the DOT's determination that a system 11 is appropriate and necessary and the least restrictive means 12 to address the critical traffic safety issues at a location. 13 The DOT must only approve one permit for a local authority, 14 which sets forth all locations at which a local authority is 15 authorized to use a system. A local authority may submit an 16 application to the DOT to update the local authority's permit 17 with a new location. The bill lists the required information 18 to provide on an application for a permit, including but not 19 limited to records relating to traffic violations and traffic 20 collisions and accidents occurring at the location; an analysis 21 of existing traffic speed data, posted speed limits, traffic 22 volume data, and intersection and roadway measurements; 23 the proposed cause of critical traffic safety issues; and 24 alternative methods to improve traffic safety.

The bill requires an image of a registration plate, and any related data, captured by an automatic registration plate reader to be deleted from the reader, including storage devices used in connection with the reader, no later than 30 days after the image is captured. However, a law enforcement agency is authorized to make a copy of the image and data if relevant to an ongoing criminal case or investigation. The requirement to delete the plate image and data does not apply to copies retained by a law enforcement agency in accordance with the agency's evidence retention policy. A person who violates these automatic registration plate reader requirements commits

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1 a simple misdemeanor. A simple misdemeanor is punishable by 2 confinement for no more than 30 days and a fine of at least \$105 3 but not more than \$855.

The bill limits the use of a system to issue citations only for violations for failure to yield or stop at an intersection controlled by a traffic control signal or at a railroad rossing, or exceeding the speed limit by more than 10 miles per hour (MPH). A local authority with a population of 20,000 or less cannot use a mobile system to issue citations. The DOT must adopt administrative rules otherwise authorizing and regulating the use of mobile systems, including the use of mobile systems in certain locations. Regardless of its population size, a local authority may issue a warning memorandum to the owner of a vehicle that was operated in violation of a traffic law if the violation was detected using a system, including a mobile system.

The bill requires a local authority to provide certain 17 18 notice to drivers about the use of a system. Permanent signage 19 providing notice to drivers that a system is in place at a 20 fixed location must be erected at least 500 feet but not 21 more than 1,000 feet along the approach of any highway where 22 the system is used. If a mobile system is used, the local 23 authority must post permanent signs giving notice of the use 24 of mobile systems within the local authority's boundaries at 25 every location where a highway enters the boundaries of the 26 local authority. The signs must be erected at the expense of 27 the local authority. Every location where an automated or 28 remote system is used must be clearly identified and installed 29 at least 30 days prior to the system enforcing any detected 30 violations. A local authority must provide an annual report 31 to the DOT about the local authority's systems, and post the 32 report on the local authority's internet site, if applicable. 33 A local authority is prohibited from issuing a citation 34 or warning memorandum for a violation detected by a system 35 until a peace officer of the local authority, or an individual

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1 trained and certified by the local authority, has reviewed 2 and approved the recorded photograph or video to affirm a 3 traffic violation occurred. The amount of the fine imposed by 4 a citation resulting from a violation, other than an excessive 5 speed violation, detected by a system is limited to the amount 6 of the scheduled fine for the same violation under Code section 7 805.8A. The maximum amount for a fine for an excessive speed 8 violation is set forth in the bill based on MPH in excess of the 9 limit, and is doubled if the violation occurs in a road work 10 zone. A system not in compliance with the bill cannot be used 11 to detect violations. A citation issued while the system is 12 not in compliance is void and unenforceable.

13 The bill requires system citations to be issued to the owner 14 of a motor vehicle, but also requires local authorities to 15 provide an opportunity for an owner to identify another person 16 who was operating the vehicle during the violation.

A local authority that collects revenue for traffic Notes a system must remit certain percentages of moneys received from the use of the system, not including the cost to install, operate, and maintain the system, to the treasurer of state: 10 percent is deposited in the length of service award program fund established in the bill, and 5 percent is deposited in the general fund of the state to be used by the Iowa law enforcement academy. A local authority is prohibited from spending the moneys retained by the local authority other than to fund transportation infrastructure projects or to offset costs incurred relating to the operation a police or fire department.

The bill requires that systems be installed to avoid the offect of camera flash on drivers and to prevent capturing recordings of the front of the vehicle or persons in the vehicle. The bill regulates the required system maintenance and frequency of maintenance, including system compliance with qenerally accepted procedures for the system, daily internal calibrations, and monthly calibration by a person trained in

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1 the calibration of the system. The bill requires a local 2 authority to maintain a monthly log detailing the maintenance 3 and calibration records.

EXISTING SYSTEMS. The bill provides that a local authority 4 5 using a system prior to January 1, 2024, may submit to the DOT 6 by July 1, 2024, a list of system locations and justifications 7 for placement and use. The department must, by October 1, 8 2024, issue a permit to the local authority. A local authority 9 using a system prior to January 1, 2024, may continue to use 10 the system, unless it is a mobile system prohibited under 11 new Code section 321P.3, in the same manner and at the same 12 locations as the system was used while the DOT is considering 13 the local authority's application. If, on October 1, 2024, 14 the local authority has not been issued a permit, the local 15 authority must cease using all systems until the local 16 authority obtains a permit under the bill. A local authority 17 using a system at a location for the first time on or after 18 January 1, 2024, shall not be issued a permit before July 1, 19 2026. These provisions of the bill take effect upon enactment. 20 LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAMS. The bill authorizes a 21 municipality, defined as a city, county, township, benefited 22 fire district, or agency authorized by law to provide emergency 23 response services, to establish a length of service award 24 program as described in the Internal Revenue Code for volunteer 25 fire fighters, volunteer emergency medical care providers, and 26 reserve peace officers. The governing body of a municipality 27 that establishes a program shall, in consultation with the 28 chief or other person in command of the fire department and 29 police department serving the municipality, as applicable, 30 adopt guidelines providing for eligibility requirements for 31 participation, minimum vesting requirements, distribution 32 requirements, and such other guidelines as deemed necessary to 33 operate the program.

The bill also establishes a length of service award program 35 grant fund under the control of the department of revenue.

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1 Moneys in the fund are appropriated to the department for 2 grants to municipalities that have established a length of 3 service award program to provide contributions to the program 4 on behalf of participants. The bill requires the department 5 to adopt rules establishing a grant application process that 6 shall provide for up to a dollar-for-dollar funding match from 7 a municipality that has established a length of service award 8 program. The bill also requires the grant process to allow 9 a municipality to use moneys received from any source for 10 purposes of providing the funding match required by the bill.