

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## HB 2583

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Judiciary, February 27, 2004

**Title:** An act relating to issuance of infractions and citations.

**Brief Description:** Authorizing issuance of infractions and citations by electronic device.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Lovick and Delvin; by request of Administrative Office of the Courts.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Judiciary: 2/27/04 [DP].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators McCaslin, Chair; Esser, Vice Chair; Brandland, Hargrove, Haugen, Johnson and Thibaudeau.

**Staff:** Lidia Mori (786-7755)

**Background:** A civil infraction is a minor, non-criminal offense for which a fine may be imposed. Law enforcement agencies and agencies authorized to issue civil infractions must issue notices of civil infractions from books with notices in quadruplicate. After issuing a civil infraction, the law enforcement officer or other person authorized to do so must deposit the original copy of the notice of infraction with a court of competent jurisdiction. It is official misconduct for a law enforcement officer or other officer or public employee to dispose of a notice of civil infraction, copies of the notice of civil infraction, or the record of the issuance of the notice of civil infraction in a manner not authorized by law.

A traffic enforcement officer may issue a traffic citation whenever any person is arrested for a violation of the traffic laws that is punishable as a misdemeanor or by imposition of a fine. Traffic enforcement agencies authorized to issue traffic citations must issue notices of the citations in books with citations in quadruplicate. After issuing a civil infraction, the traffic enforcement officer must deposit the original copy of the citation with a court of competent jurisdiction or with its traffic violations bureau. It is unlawful and official misconduct for a traffic enforcement officer or other officer or public employee to dispose of a traffic citation, copies of the traffic citation, or the record of the issuance of the traffic citation in a manner not authorized by law.

**Summary of Bill:** Civil infractions and traffic citations may be issued by an electronic device capable of producing a printed copy of the infraction or citation.

In addition to being official misconduct, it is unlawful for a law enforcement officer or other officer or public employee to dispose of a notice of civil infraction, copies of the notice of

civil infraction, or the record of the issuance of the notice of civil infraction in a manner not authorized by law.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** None.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** No one.