
Transportation Committee

HB 2590

Brief Description: Phasing in audible pedestrian crossing signals.

Sponsors: Representatives Cooper, Lovick, Dickerson, McCoy, Romero, Moeller, Kenney and Santos.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to ensure that a new or improved pedestrian crossing signal project have audible pedestrian signals if any state funds are involved.

Hearing Date: 2/2/04

Staff: Gene Baxstrom (786-7303).

Background:

Most signalized intersections in this state within urban areas include visual pedestrian crossing signals. Standards within some communities require that audible pedestrian crossing signals be installed to complement visual pedestrian crossing signals.

When state highways are upgraded through an urban area, the state observes local policies regarding enhancements to pedestrian crossing signals for the installation of audible signals. Also, Transportation Improvement Board funded projects reflect local design policies. Certain communities require audible signals and others do not. If an intersection is located on the border of multiple jurisdictions, there may be audible signals in only part of the intersection.

Summary of Bill:

The DOT is required to ensure that audible pedestrians crossing signals are installed at any location within the state where a project is funded with state funds and where the project includes new signals being installed or signals are being upgraded. The signals must conform with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 28, 2004.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.