

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5685

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As of January 29, 2009

**Title:** An act relating to the use of automated traffic safety cameras in ferry zones.

**Brief Description:** Authorizing the use of automated traffic safety cameras in ferry zones.

**Sponsors:** Senator Haugen.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Transportation:

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Staff:** Janice Baumgardt (786-7319)

**Background:** Current law allows the use of "automated traffic safety cameras" (cameras) under certain conditions and only in certain areas. Local governments may use cameras subject to the following conditions: (1) an ordinance must first be enacted by the local legislative authority allowing their use to detect only stoplight, railroad crossing, or school speed zone violations and setting forth public notice and signage provisions; (2) use of the cameras is restricted to two-arterial intersections, railroad crossings, and school speed zones only; (3) pictures may only be taken of vehicles and vehicle license plates and only while an infraction is occurring, and must not reveal driver or passenger faces; (4) all locations where a camera is used must be clearly marked by signs indicating the presence of a camera zone; (5) infraction notices must be mailed to the registered owner of the vehicle within 14 days of infraction, and may be responded to by mail; and (6) infractions detected through the use of cameras are not part of the registered owner's driving record.

The registered owner of a vehicle is responsible for an infraction detected by an automated traffic safety camera unless the owner states under oath that the vehicle involved was, at the time, stolen or in the care, custody, or control of another person.

Infractions detected through the use of cameras must be processed in the same manner as parking infractions.

**Summary of Bill:** The automated traffic safety camera law is expanded to include authorizing the use of cameras in ferry zones which are defined as any intersection or highway at or near a ferry terminal or ferry holding area.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

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