

---

## Transportation Committee

---

### HB 1527

**Brief Description:** Allowing motorcycles to stop and proceed through traffic control signals under certain conditions.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Asay, Armstrong, Taylor, Wilcox, Orcutt, Dammeier, Condotta, Carlyle, Stanford, Warnick and McCune.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Brief Summary of Bill</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Allows motorcycles to proceed through an intersection after one cycle at a signalized intersection equipped with a vehicle detection device that fails to register the presence of the motorcycle.</li></ul>
--



**Hearing Date:** 2/8/11

**Staff:** Wendy Malkin (786-7114).

**Background:**

All vehicle operators are required to obey traffic control devices, including traffic signals at intersections. Some of these traffic signals are equipped with sensors that determine when a vehicle has approached the intersection. Once detected by the sensor, the traffic signal will initiate a change in, or extension of, a traffic signal phase (e.g., change a red light to green).

**Summary of Bill:**

After stopping at an intersection controlled by a traffic signal using a vehicle detection device, a motorcyclist may proceed through the intersection, after exercising due care, if a full cycle of the traffic signal has passed, and the signal has failed to operate due to the size of the motorcycle.

A belief that a traffic signal is equipped with a vehicle detection device, when it is not, is not a defense to a traffic citation for failure to obey a traffic signal. Similarly, a belief that the device

---

*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.*

is inoperative due to the size of the motorcycle is not a defense when the device is not inoperative due to the size of the motorcycle.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

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