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SENATE BILL 5141

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senators King, Eide, Rivers, Sheldon, Hatfield, Delvin, Ericksen, Carrell, Padden, Harper, Keiser, Rolfes, Shin, Holmquist Newbry, Roach, and Kline

Read first time 01/21/13. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to allowing motorcycles to stop and proceed through  
2 traffic control signals under certain conditions; and adding a new  
3 section to chapter 46.61 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.61 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the operator  
8 of a street legal motorcycle approaching an intersection, including a  
9 left turn intersection, that is controlled by a triggered traffic  
10 control signal using a vehicle detection device that is inoperative due  
11 to the size of the street legal motorcycle shall come to a full and  
12 complete stop at the intersection. If the traffic control signal,  
13 including the left turn signal, as appropriate, fails to operate after  
14 one cycle of the traffic signal, the operator may, after exercising due  
15 care, proceed directly through the intersection or proceed to turn  
16 left, as appropriate. It is not a defense to a violation of RCW  
17 46.61.050 that the driver of a motorcycle proceeded under the belief  
18 that a traffic control signal used a vehicle detection device or was

1 inoperative due to the size of the motorcycle when the signal did not  
2 use a vehicle detection device or that any such device was not in fact  
3 inoperative due to the size of the motorcycle.

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