

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5354

As of February 1, 2021

Title: An act relating to traffic control in large cities.

Brief Description: Addressing traffic control in large cities.

Sponsors: Senators Saldaña, King and Nguyen.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 2/01/21.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Authorizes a single flagger, in large cities, to control traffic from the center of an intersection without the presence of a police officer, if part of an approved traffic control plan.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Kimberly Johnson (786-7472)

Background: Large public events often require event organizers to apply for certain permits related to public safety, traffic issues often being part of the permitting and planning process.

Under current law, all motor vehicle drivers and pedestrians must obey traffic control signals, unless directed otherwise by a police or traffic officer. There is also an administrative rule that prohibits a single flagger directing traffic in the center of an intersection, except when there is an emergency or when law enforcement is flagging.

Summary of Bill: In cities with a population of 700,000 or greater, a single flagger may direct traffic from the center of an intersection without a police or traffic officer present, if part of a traffic control plan approved by the city.

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

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

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