

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 396

BY REPRESENTATIVE TERRY LANDRY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

TRANSPORTATION: Provides relative to traffic signals

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:232(2)(a), (3)(c), and (4) and to enact R.S. 32:232(5), relative  
3 to traffic control signals, to provide for vehicular traffic regulations under certain  
4 conditions; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 32:232(2)(a), (3)(c), and (4) are hereby amended and reenacted and  
7 R.S. 32:232(5) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §232. Traffic-control signals

9 Whenever traffic is controlled by traffic-control signals exhibiting different  
10 colored lights, or colored lighted arrows, successively one at a time or in  
11 combination, only the colors green, red, and yellow shall be used, except for special  
12 pedestrian signals carrying a word legend, and said lights shall indicate and apply to  
13 drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

14 \* \* \*

15 (2) Steady YELLOW indication:

16 (a) Vehicular traffic facing a steady yellow signal alone is thereby warned  
17 that the related green signal is being terminated or that a red signal will be exhibited  
18 immediately thereafter and such vehicular traffic shall not enter ~~or be crossing~~ the  
19 intersection when the red signal is exhibited.

20 \* \* \*

1 (3) Steady RED indication:

2 \* \* \*

3 (c) Except when a sign prohibits a turn, vehicular traffic facing any steady  
4 red signal may cautiously enter the intersection to turn right, or to turn left from a  
5 one-way street into a one-way street, or to U-turn at a signalized U-turn after  
6 stopping as required by Subparagraph (a) or Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph.  
7 Such vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an  
8 adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

9 \* \* \*

10 (4) When a flashing YELLOW arrow indication is activated, vehicular  
11 traffic, on an approach to an intersection, facing a flashing yellow arrow signal  
12 indication, displayed alone or in combination with another signal indication, is  
13 permitted to cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated  
14 by such arrow. In addition, vehicular traffic facing a flashing yellow arrow, turning  
15 left or making a U-turn to the left shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles  
16 approaching from the opposite direction. Such vehicular traffic, including making  
17 a U-Turn, shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within the associated  
18 crosswalk, and to other vehicles lawfully within the intersection.

19 ~~(4)~~(5) In the event an official traffic-control signal is erected and maintained  
20 at a place other than an intersection, the provisions of this Section shall be applicable  
21 except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application. Any  
22 stop required shall be made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where  
23 the stop shall be made, but in the absence of any such sign or marking, the stop shall  
24 be made at the signal.

25 \* \* \*

26 Section 2. The Act shall become effective upon signature of the governor or, if not  
27 signed by the governor, upon expiration of time for bills to become law without signature  
28 of the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18, of the Constitution of Louisiana. This  
29 Act shall become effective on July 1, 2013; if vetoed by the governor and subsequently

- 1 approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2013, or on the day  
2 following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

---

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

Terry Landry

HB No. 396

**Abstract:** Provides relative to certain traffic control signals.

Present law provides that traffic facing a steady yellow signal alone shall be warned that the related green light signal is being terminated or that a red light signal will be exhibited immediately following the yellow signal and that vehicular traffic shall not enter or be crossing the intersection. Proposed law modifies present law to restrict vehicular traffic from crossing such intersection.

Present law provides when a traffic sign prohibits a turn, vehicular traffic facing any steady red signal may cautiously enter the intersection to turn right, or to turn left from a one-way street into a one-way street, after stopping as required by present law. Such vehicular traffic shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within an adjacent crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection. Proposed law includes vehicular traffic making a U-turn at a signalized U-turn in this provision.

Proposed law provides that during a flashing YELLOW arrow indication, vehicular traffic, on an approach to an intersection, facing a flashing yellow arrow signal indication, displayed alone or in combination with another signal indication, is permitted to cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by such arrow. In addition, vehicular traffic facing a flashing yellow arrow, turning left or making a U-turn to the left shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles approaching from the opposite direction. Such vehicular traffic, including making a U-Turn, shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within the associated crosswalk, and to other vehicles lawfully within the intersection.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 32:232(2)(a), (3)(c), and (4); Adds R.S. 32:232(5))