

Session 114 - (2001-2002)

S 1179 General Bill, By Thomas

Summary: Law enforcement vehicle pursuits of speeding vehicles, high-speed chase policies to be adopted

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 56-5-4705 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO PURSUES A VEHICLE THAT EXCEEDS THE SPEED LIMIT OR WHO IS RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, MUST ACTIVATE HIS SIREN AND BLUE LIGHT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AND TO PROVIDE CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY MUST COMPILE A STATEWIDE REPORT OF ALL VEHICLE PURSUITS, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO PURSUES A SPEEDING MOTOR VEHICLE OR WHO IS RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, MUST RECEIVE CERTAIN TRAINING; TO AMEND SECTION 16-17-720, RELATING TO IMPERSONATING A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR A PERSON TO IMPERSONATE A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER BY DEPLOYING A BLUE LIGHT AND ENGAGING IN A HIGH-SPEED MOTOR VEHICLE CHASE, AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56-5-760, RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT EACH MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND THE STATE HIGHWAY PATROL MUST ADOPT A HIGH-SPEED CHASE POLICY BY JANUARY 1, 2003, WHICH MUST BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

04/03/02 Senate Introduced and read first time SJ-3

04/03/02 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary SJ-3