HB 531

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to noncriminal traffic infractions;
3	amending s. 318.14, F.S.; requiring a specified
4	reduction of a civil penalty under certain
5	circumstances; deleting the requirement that a
6	specified percentage of the civil penalty be deposited
7	in the State Courts Revenue Trust Fund; amending s.
8	318.15, F.S.; requiring a person to pay the clerk of
9	the court the amount of the reduction under certain
10	circumstances; providing an effective date.
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12	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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14	Section 1. Subsection (9) of section 318.14, Florida
15	Statutes, is amended to read:
16	318.14 Noncriminal traffic infractions; exception;
17	procedures
18	(9) Any person who does not hold a commercial driver
19	license or commercial learner's permit and who is cited while
20	driving a noncommercial motor vehicle for an infraction under
21	this section other than a violation of s. 316.183(2), s.
22	316.187, or s. 316.189 when the driver exceeds the posted limit
23	by 30 miles per hour or more, s. 320.0605, s. 320.07(3)(a) or
24	(b), s. 322.065, s. 322.15(1), s. 322.61, or s. 322.62 may, in
25	lieu of a court appearance, elect to attend in the location of
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26 his or her choice within this state a basic driver improvement 27 course approved by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor 28 Vehicles. In such a case, adjudication must be withheld; and 29 points, as provided by s. 322.27, may not be assessed; and any 30 civil penalty that is imposed under s. 318.18(3) must be reduced 31 by 18 percent. However, a person may not make an election under 32 this subsection if the person has made an election under this 33 subsection in the preceding 12 months. A person may not make 34 more than five elections within his or her lifetime under this 35 subsection. The requirement for community service under s. 318.18(8) is not waived by a plea of nolo contendere or by the 36 37 withholding of adjudication of guilt by a court. If a person 38 makes an election to attend a basic driver improvement course 39 under this subsection, 18 percent of the civil penalty imposed under s. 318.18(3) shall be deposited in the State Courts 40 41 Revenue Trust Fund; however, that portion is not revenue for 42 purposes of s. 28.36 and may not be used in establishing the 43 budget of the clerk of the court under that section or s. 28.35. 44 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 45 318.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 318.15 Failure to comply with civil penalty or to appear; 46 47 penalty.-48 (1)49 (b) However, a person who elects to attend driver 50 improvement school and has paid the civil penalty as provided in

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51 s. 318.14(9), but who subsequently fails to attend the driver 52 improvement school within the time specified by the court shall 53 be deemed to have admitted the infraction and shall be 54 adjudicated guilty. In such a case in which there is was an 18-55 percent reduction pursuant to s. 318.14(9) as it existed before 56 February 1, 2009, the person must pay the clerk of the court 57 that amount and a processing fee of up to \$18, after which no 58 additional penalties, court costs, or surcharges may not shall 59 be imposed for the violation. In all other such cases, the person must pay the clerk a processing fee of up to \$18, after 60 which no additional penalties, court costs, or surcharges may 61 62 not shall be imposed for the violation. The clerk of the court 63 shall notify the department of the person's failure to attend 64 driver improvement school and points shall be assessed pursuant 65 to s. 322.27.

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Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

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