

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to traffic and pedestrian safety;
3 providing a short title; creating s. 316.0756, F.S.;
4 specifying pedestrian crosswalks that may be
5 controlled by yellow rectangular rapid flashing beacon
6 traffic control devices; requiring removal of such
7 devices from, and removal or retrofitting of, certain
8 crosswalks; requiring the Department of Transportation
9 to request that the Federal Government allow
10 replacement of yellow rectangular rapid flashing
11 beacon traffic control devices with red rectangular
12 rapid flashing beacon traffic control devices;
13 providing requirements for replacement of rectangular
14 rapid flashing beacon traffic control devices, or
15 retrofitting or removal of certain crosswalks, if such
16 request is granted; providing requirements for
17 installation of and signage for a pedestrian crosswalk
18 on a public highway, street, or road which is located
19 at any point other than at an intersection with
20 another public highway, street, or road; providing a
21 declaration of important state interest; providing an
22 effective date.

23
24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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26 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Sophia Nelson
 27 Pedestrian Safety Act."

28 Section 2. Section 316.0756, Florida Statutes, is created
 29 to read:

30 316.0756 Traffic control devices at crosswalks.—

31 (1) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, only a
 32 pedestrian crosswalk that is located on a public highway,
 33 street, or road that has no more than two lanes and for which
 34 the speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less may be controlled
 35 by yellow rectangular rapid flashing beacon traffic control
 36 devices.

37 (2) Yellow rectangular rapid flashing beacon traffic
 38 control devices that are located on a pedestrian crosswalk on a
 39 public highway, street, or road that does not meet the
 40 requirements of subsection (1) must be removed from such
 41 crosswalk by October 1, 2024, and the entity with jurisdiction
 42 over such crosswalk must remove the crosswalk or retrofit the
 43 crosswalk with legally acceptable equipment.

44 (3) (a) No later than October 1, 2020, the Department of
 45 Transportation must submit to the Federal Government a request
 46 for authorization to allow yellow rectangular rapid flashing
 47 beacon traffic control devices to be replaced by red rectangular
 48 rapid flashing beacon traffic control devices.

49 (b) If the Federal Government grants such request:

50 1. All yellow rectangular rapid flashing beacon traffic

51 control devices at each crosswalk described in subsection (1)
52 must be replaced by red rectangular rapid flashing beacon
53 traffic control devices within 12 months after the date of
54 federal authorization.

55 2.a. All yellow rectangular rapid flashing beacon traffic
56 control devices at each crosswalk described in subsection (2)
57 must be replaced by red rectangular rapid flashing beacon
58 traffic control devices within 12 months after the date of
59 federal authorization; or

60 b. By October 1, 2024, each crosswalk described in
61 subsection (2) must be retrofitted with legally acceptable
62 equipment or removed.

63 (4) (a) Before the installation of a pedestrian crosswalk
64 on a public highway, street, or road which is located at any
65 point other than at an intersection with another public highway,
66 street, or road, a traffic engineering study must be conducted
67 by a Florida licensed professional engineer which recommends the
68 installation of such crosswalk.

69 (b) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a pedestrian
70 crosswalk on a public highway, street, or road which is located
71 at any point other than at an intersection with another public
72 highway, street, or road must include a pedestrian-facing sign
73 containing language stating duties applicable to a pedestrian.

74 Section 3. The Legislature finds and declares that this
75 act fulfills an important state interest.

76 | Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020. |