

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to offenses involving motor vehicles;  
3       amending s. 316.2397, F.S.; reclassifying the offense  
4       of driving, moving, or causing to be moved a vehicle  
5       or equipment with certain lighting on a highway as a  
6       third degree felony in a specified circumstance;  
7       amending s. 320.061, F.S.; increasing the penalty for  
8       knowingly altering a motor vehicle registration  
9       certificate, a license plate, a temporary license  
10      plate, a mobile home sticker, or a validation sticker  
11      or obscuring a license plate from a noncriminal  
12      traffic infraction to a second degree misdemeanor;  
13      creating s. 320.262, F.S.; defining the term "license  
14      plate obscuring device"; providing criminal penalties  
15      if a person purchases, possesses, manufactures, sells,  
16      offers to sell, or otherwise distributes a license  
17      plate obscuring device; providing an enhanced penalty  
18      if a person uses a license plate obscuring device for  
19      specified purposes; providing an effective date.

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21   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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23       Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (10) of section  
24       316.2397, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (1) of  
25       that section is republished, to read:

316.2397 Certain lights prohibited; exceptions.—

(1) A person may not drive or move or cause to be moved any vehicle or equipment upon any highway within this state with any lamp or device thereon showing or displaying a red, red and white, or blue light visible from directly in front thereof except for certain vehicles provided in this section.

(10)(a) A person who violates subsection (1) and in so doing effects or attempts to effect a stop of another vehicle commits a felony ~~misdemeanor~~ of the third ~~first~~ degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, ~~or~~ s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 2. Section 320.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.061 Unlawful to alter motor vehicle registration certificates, license plates, temporary license plates, mobile home stickers, or validation stickers or to obscure license plates; penalty.—A person may not alter the original appearance of a vehicle registration certificate, license plate, temporary license plate, mobile home sticker, or validation sticker issued for and assigned to a motor vehicle or mobile home, whether by mutilation, alteration, defacement, or change of color or in any other manner. A person may not apply or attach a substance, reflective matter, illuminated device, spray, coating, covering, or other material onto or around any license plate which interferes with the legibility, angular visibility, or

51 detectability of any feature or detail on the license plate or  
52 interferes with the ability to record any feature or detail on  
53 the license plate. A person who knowingly violates this section  
54 commits a misdemeanor of the second degree ~~noncriminal traffic~~  
55 ~~infraction~~, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083 ~~a~~  
56 ~~moving violation as provided in chapter 318~~.

57 Section 3. Section 320.262, Florida Statutes, is created  
58 to read:

59 320.262 License plate obscuring device prohibited;  
60 penalties.—

61 (1) As used in this section, the term "license plate  
62 obscuring device" means a manual, electronic, or mechanical  
63 device designed or adapted to be installed on a motor vehicle  
64 for the purpose of:

65 (a) Switching between two or more license plates to permit  
66 a motor vehicle operator to change the license plate displayed  
67 on the motor vehicle;

68 (b) Hiding a license plate from view by flipping the  
69 license plate so that the license plate number is not visible;

70 (c) Covering, obscuring, or otherwise interfering with the  
71 legibility, angular visibility, or detectability of the primary  
72 features or details, including the license plate number or  
73 validation sticker, on the license plate; or

74 (d) Interfering with the ability to record the primary  
75 features or details, including the license plate number or

76   validation sticker, on the license plate.

77       (2) A person commits a misdemeanor of the second degree,  
78   punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, if he or she  
79   purchases or possesses a license plate obscuring device.

80       (3) A person commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,  
81   punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, if he or she  
82   manufactures, sells, offers to sell, or otherwise distributes a  
83   license plate obscuring device.

84       (4) A person commits a felony of the third degree,  
85   punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084,  
86   if he or she uses a license plate obscuring device to assist in  
87   committing a crime or in escaping from or avoiding detection or  
88   arrest in connection with committing such crime.

89       Section 4. This act shall take effect October 1, 2025.