

By Senator Rodriguez

40-00053-25

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to motor vehicles; amending s.
316.2397, F.S.; reclassifying the offense of driving,
moving, or causing to be moved a vehicle or equipment
with certain lighting on a highway as a third degree
felony; amending s. 320.061, F.S.; reclassifying the
offense of interfering with the legibility, angular
visibility, or detectability of any feature or detail
on a license plate or interfering with the ability to
record any feature on a license plate as a third
degree felony; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (10) of section
316.2397, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (1) of
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.

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

40-00053-25

202544__

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 who makes such alteration commits a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a moving violation as provided in chapter 318. 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 detectability of any feature or detail on the license plate or interferes with the ability to record any feature or detail on the license plate. A person who so interferes with a license plate commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083 ~~violates this section commits a noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a moving violation as provided in chapter 318.~~

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.