

By: Watson

S.B. No. 346

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the rules of the road regarding red signals at certain traffic control signals.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 544.007, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(d) An operator of a vehicle facing only a steady red signal shall stop at a clearly marked stop line. In the absence of a stop line, the operator shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection. Except as provided by Subsection (d-1), a [A] vehicle that is not turning shall remain standing until an indication to proceed is shown. After stopping, standing until the intersection may be entered safely, and yielding right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully in an adjacent crosswalk and other traffic lawfully using the intersection, the operator may:

(1) turn right; or

(2) turn left, if the intersecting streets are both one-way streets and a left turn is permissible.

(d-1) An operator of a vehicle facing only a steady red signal at a traffic-actuated electric traffic-control signal, as described by Section 544.0075, may proceed if the traffic-control signal fails to register the vehicle within a reasonable period of time after one complete cycle of the traffic-control signal. The

1 right to proceed is subject to the rules applicable after stopping
2 at a stop sign. An operator of a vehicle that proceeds through a
3 steady red signal in accordance with this subsection under the
4 reasonable but mistaken belief that the traffic-control signal
5 failed to register the vehicle is not subject to prosecution for
6 failing to stop at the traffic-control signal.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.