

Session 113 - (1999-2000)

S 0503 General Bill, By Thomas, Peeler and Giese

Summary: High-speed chase policy, Motor Vehicles, Law Enforcement officers, Highways, Transportation, Traffic violations

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 56-5-755 SO AS TO ESTABLISH FELONY FLEEING AS A CRIME, AND TO PROVIDE A PENALTY; BY ADDING SECTION 56-5-4705 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO PURSUES A VEHICLE THAT EXCEEDS THE SPEED LIMIT OR WHO IS RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, MUST ACTIVATE HIS SIREN AND BLUE LIGHT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AND PROVIDE CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, TO PROVIDE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY MUST COMPILE A STATEWIDE REPORT OF ALL VEHICLE PURSUITS, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WHO PURSUES A SPEEDING MOTOR VEHICLE OR WHO IS RESPONDING TO AN INCIDENT AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, MUST RECEIVE CERTAIN TRAINING; AND TO AMEND SECTION 56-5-760, RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT EACH MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY AND THE STATE HIGHWAY PATROL MUST ADOPT A HIGH-SPEED CHASE POLICY BY JANUARY 1, 2000, WHICH MUST BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, AND TO PROVIDE THAT A VEHICLE PURSUIT THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S MODEL POLICY REGARDING HIGH-SPEED PURSUITS IS PROHIBITED AND THE PURSUIT IS CONSIDERED GROSSLY NEGLIGENT BEHAVIOR.

02/17/99 Senate Introduced and read first time SJ-4

02/17/99 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary SJ-4