

HOUSE BILL NO. 432

INTRODUCED BY J. BALYEAT

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING A MOTORIST TO TURN RIGHT AT A RED LIGHT WHERE THERE ARE TWO RIGHT TURN LANES IF THE MOTORIST IS IN THE FAR RIGHT LANE; AND AMENDING SECTION 61-8-207, MCA."

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

Section 1. Section 61-8-207, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-8-207. Traffic-control signal legend. Whenever traffic is controlled by traffic-control signals exhibiting the words "Go", "Caution", or "Stop" or exhibiting different colored lights successively one at a time or with arrows, the following colors only must be used and the terms and lights must indicate and apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

(1) green alone or "Go":

(a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal may proceed straight through or turn left or right unless a sign at the place prohibits either turn. But vehicular traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, must yield the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time the signal is exhibited.

(b) Pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked crosswalk.

(2) yellow alone or "Caution" when shown following the green or "Go" signal:

(a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal is warned that the red or "Stop" signal will be exhibited immediately thereafter and vehicular traffic may not enter the intersection when the red or "Stop" signal is exhibited.

(b) Pedestrians facing the signals are advised that there is insufficient time to cross the roadway, and a pedestrian then starting to cross shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles.

(3) red alone or "Stop":

(a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal must stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection and must remain standing until green or

1 "Go" is shown alone, until a right turn can safely be made, or until a left turn can safely be made from the
2 far left lane if the turn is made from a one-way street onto another one-way street going left. In making
3 the turn, vehicular traffic must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within the crosswalk and to
4 other traffic lawfully using the intersection. ~~¶~~ Subject to subsection (3)(b), if a traffic sign legend indicating
5 that no right turn on red or no left turn on red may be made after a stop is posted at the intersection, the
6 movement cannot be made until green or "Go" is shown alone.

7 (b) At an intersection where there are at least two adjacent lanes, both turning in the same
8 direction onto the corresponding lanes on the roadway, the motorist in the far right lane may make a right
9 turn before the green or "Go" signal is shown if the motorist first stops before entering the crosswalk and
10 yields the right-of-way to pedestrians and other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

11 ~~(b)(c)~~ A pedestrian facing a signal may not enter the roadway unless the pedestrian can do so
12 safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic.

13 (4) red with a green arrow:

14 (a) Vehicular traffic facing a signal may cautiously enter the intersection only to make the
15 movement indicated by the arrow but must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within the
16 crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

17 (b) A pedestrian facing a signal may not enter the roadway unless the pedestrian can do so safely
18 and without interfering with vehicular traffic.

19 (5) traffic-control signal at a place other than an intersection:

20 (a) In the event an official traffic-control signal is erected and maintained at a place other than an
21 intersection, the provisions of this section are applicable except as to those provisions that by their very
22 nature can have no application.

23 (b) Any stop required must be made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the
24 stop must be made, but in the absence of any sign or marking, the stop must be made at the signal."

25 - END -