

**2016 -- H 7240 SUBSTITUTE A**

LC004438/SUB A/2

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2016**

**A N A C T**

**RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- INTERSECTION VIOLATIONS**

Introduced By: Representatives Lima, Keable, Casey, and Morin

Date Introduced: January 20, 2016

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 31-15 of the General Laws entitled "Passing, Use of Lanes, and Rules  
2 of the Road" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3           **31-15-12.2. Don't Block the Box.** – (a) No operator of a motor vehicle shall proceed into  
4 an intersection that has been designated, posted and marked by a municipality in accordance with  
5 subsection (b) of this section, except when making a turn, unless there is sufficient space on the  
6 opposite side of the intersection to accommodate such motor vehicle without obstructing the  
7 passage of other vehicles or pedestrians, notwithstanding the indication of a traffic control signal  
8 that would permit such operator to proceed into the intersection.

9           (b) Any municipality may, by ordinance, designate one or more intersections within that  
10 municipality as "Don't Block the Box" intersections, to which the provisions of subsection (a) of  
11 this section shall apply. The municipality shall:

12           (1) Post "Don't Block the Box" signs, as designed by the state traffic commission so as to  
13 have conformity in all municipalities, at each such designated intersection indicating that blocking  
14 the intersection is prohibited and violators are subject to a fine; and

15           (2) Mark, in white paint, the boundary of such intersection with a line not less than one-  
16 foot in width and the area within such boundary line with parallel diagonal lines not less than one-  
17 foot in width.

18           (c) Prior to January 1, 2017, any motorist who violates this subsection shall be issued a  
19 verbal warning only; this verbal warning shall only apply to "Don't Block the Box" intersections

1 as established by subsection (b).

2 (d) Effective January 1, 2017, any motorist who commits a first violation of this section  
3 shall be fined one hundred dollars (\$100); a second violation of this section shall be fined two  
4 hundred fifty dollars (\$250); and for a third and subsequent violation of this section, five hundred  
5 dollars (\$500).

6 (e) Any city or town that determines that it has a traffic and safety problem in its community  
7 due to violations of this section on state intersections located within its municipality may petition  
8 the state traffic commission, created by §31-13-1, for permission to paint "Don't Block the Box"  
9 lines in accordance with subsection (b) above.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC004438/SUB A/2  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- INTERSECTION VIOLATIONS

\*\*\*

1           This act would establish a fine for motor vehicle operators who block the box at traffic  
2 signal controlled intersections, would allow for the painting by a municipality of a four (4) sided  
3 box at dangerous intersections.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC004438/SUB A/2  
=====

A N A C T

RELATING TO MOTOR AND OTHER VEHICLES -- INTERSECTION VIOLATIONS

=====  
LC004438/SUB A/2  
=====

-----  
Presented by

- |     |     |
|-----|-----|
| 1.  | 19. |
| 2.  | 20. |
| 3.  | 21. |
| 4.  | 22. |
| 5.  | 23. |
| 6.  | 24. |
| 7.  | 25. |
| 8.  | 26. |
| 9.  | 27. |
| 10. | 28. |
| 11. | 29. |
| 12. | 30. |
| 13. | 31. |
| 14. | 32. |
| 15. | 33. |
| 16. | 34. |
| 17. | 35. |
| 18. | 36. |