

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 564

To improve traffic safety by discouraging the use of traffic signal preemption transmitters.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2005

Mr. DEWINE (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To improve traffic safety by discouraging the use of traffic signal preemption transmitters.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Safe Intersections Act
5 of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. SAFE INTERSECTIONS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title 18, United
8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

1 **“§ 39. Traffic signal preemption transmitters**

2 “(a) OFFENSES.—

3 “(1) SALE.—A person who knowingly sells a
4 traffic signal preemption transmitter in or affecting
5 interstate or foreign commerce to a person who is
6 not acting on behalf of a public agency or private
7 corporation authorized by law to provide fire protec-
8 tion, law enforcement, emergency medical services,
9 transit services, maintenance, or other services for a
10 Federal, State, or local government entity, shall,
11 notwithstanding section 3571(b) of title 18, United
12 States Code, be fined not more than \$10,000, im-
13 prisoned not more than 1 year, or both.

14 “(2) USE.—A person who makes unauthorized
15 use of a traffic signal preemption transmitter in or
16 affecting interstate or foreign commerce shall be
17 fined not more than \$10,000, imprisoned not more
18 than 6 months, or both.

19 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following
20 definitions apply:

21 “(1) TRAFFIC SIGNAL PREEMPTION TRANS-
22 MITTER.—The term ‘traffic signal preemption trans-
23 mitter’ means any mechanism that can change or
24 alter a traffic signal’s phase time or sequence.

25 “(2) UNAUTHORIZED USE.—The term ‘unau-
26 thorized use’ means use of a traffic signal preemp-

1 tion transmitter by a person who is not acting on be-
2 half of a public agency or private corporation au-
3 thorized by law to provide fire protection, law en-
4 forcement, emergency medical services, transit serv-
5 ices, maintenance, or other services for a Federal,
6 State, or local government entity. The term ‘unau-
7 thorized use’ does not apply to use of a traffic signal
8 preemption transmitter for classroom or instruc-
9 tional purposes.”.

10 (b) CHAPTER ANALYSIS.—The chapter analysis for
11 chapter 2 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by
12 adding at the end the following:

“39. Traffic signal preemption transmitters.”.

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