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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **2616**

February 4, 2010

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Policy and Oversight

February 12, 2010

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass

Read Second Time

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to traffic regulations; allowing bicyclist to stop and proceed through red
1.3 light under limited circumstances; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, section
1.4 169.06, subdivision 9.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 169.06, subdivision 9, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 9. **Affirmative defense relating to unchanging traffic-control signal.**

1.8 (a) A person operating a bicycle or motorcycle who violates subdivision 4 by entering
1.9 or crossing an intersection controlled by a traffic-control signal against a red light has an
1.10 affirmative defense to that charge if the person establishes all of the following conditions:

1.11 (1) the bicycle or motorcycle has been brought to a complete stop;

1.12 (2) the traffic-control signal continues to show a red light for an unreasonable time;

1.13 (3) the traffic-control signal is apparently malfunctioning or, if programmed or
1.14 engineered to change to a green light only after detecting the approach of a motor vehicle,
1.15 the signal has apparently failed to detect the arrival of the bicycle or motorcycle; and

1.16 (4) no motor vehicle or person is approaching on the street or highway to be crossed
1.17 or entered or is so far away from the intersection that it does not constitute an immediate
1.18 hazard.

1.19 (b) The affirmative defense in this subdivision applies only to a violation for entering
1.20 or crossing an intersection controlled by a traffic-control signal against a red light and does
1.21 not provide a defense to any other civil or criminal action.