

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 93**

Introduced by Hansen, 26; Ebke, 32.

Read first time January 05, 2017

Committee: Judiciary

- 1    A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to law enforcement; to adopt the Automatic
- 2       License Plate Reader Privacy Act.
- 3    Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1       Section 1. Sections 1 to 9 of this act shall be known and may be  
2 cited as the Automatic License Plate Reader Privacy Act.

3       Sec. 2. For purposes of the Automatic License Plate Reader Privacy  
4 Act:

5           (1) Alert means data held by the Department of Motor Vehicles, each  
6 criminal justice information system maintained in this state, the Federal  
7 Bureau of Investigation National Crime Information Center, the Federal  
8 Bureau of Investigation Kidnapping and Missing Persons list, the Missing  
9 Persons Information Clearinghouse established under section 29-214.01,  
10 and license plate numbers that have been manually entered into the  
11 automatic license plate reader system upon a law enforcement officer's  
12 determination that the vehicles or individuals associated with the  
13 license plate numbers are relevant and material to an ongoing criminal or  
14 missing persons investigation;

15           (2) Automatic license plate reader system means one or more mobile  
16 or fixed automated high-speed cameras used in combination with computer  
17 algorithms to convert images of license plates into computer readable  
18 data;

19           (3) Captured plate data means global positioning system coordinates,  
20 date and time information, photographs, license plate numbers, and any  
21 other data captured by or derived from any automatic license plate reader  
22 system;

23           (4) Governmental entity means a department or agency of the state or  
24 a political subdivision thereof, or an individual acting for or on behalf  
25 of the state or a political subdivision thereof; and

26           (5) Secured area means a place, enclosed by clear boundaries, to  
27 which access is limited and not open to the public and entry is only  
28 obtainable through specific access-control points.

29       Sec. 3. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section or in  
30 section 4 of this act, the use of an automatic license plate reader  
31 system by any person acting under color of state law is prohibited.

1       (2) An automatic license plate reader system may be used by a person  
2 acting under color of state law when such use is:

3           (a) By a state, county, city, or village law enforcement agency as  
4 an alert for the purpose of identifying:

5              (i) Outstanding parking or traffic violations;

6              (ii) An unregistered or uninsured vehicle;

7              (iii) A vehicle in violation of the vehicle equipment requirements  
8 set forth under the Nebraska Rules of the Road;

9              (iv) A vehicle in violation of any other vehicle registration  
10 requirement;

11              (v) A vehicle registered to an individual for whom there is an  
12 outstanding warrant;

13              (vi) A vehicle associated with a missing person;

14              (vii) A vehicle that has been reported as stolen; or

15              (viii) A vehicle that is relevant and material to an ongoing  
16 criminal investigation;

17           (b) By a parking enforcement entity for regulating the use of a  
18 parking facility;

19           (c) For the purpose of controlling access to a secured area;

20           (d) For the purpose of electronic toll collection; or

21           (e) To assist weighing stations in performing their duties under  
22 section 60-1301.

23       Sec. 4. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the use  
24 or sharing of captured plate data obtained for the purposes described in  
25 subsection (2) of section 3 of this act is prohibited. Captured plate  
26 data obtained for the purposes described in subsection (2) of section 3  
27 of this act may be retained:

28           (a) As evidence under subsection (2) of section 3 of this act;

29           (b) Pursuant to a preservation request under subsection (1) of  
30 section 5 of this act;

31           (c) Pursuant to a disclosure order under subsection (2) of section 5

1    of this act;

2            (d) Pursuant to a warrant issued under the Federal Rules of Criminal  
3    Procedure or sections 29-401 to 29-411; or

4            (e) As part of an ongoing investigation if the captured plate data  
5    is confirmed as matching an alert and is destroyed at the conclusion of  
6    either:

7            (i) An investigation that does not result in any criminal charges  
8    being filed; or

9            (ii) Any criminal action undertaken in the matter involving the  
10    captured plate data.

11            (2) Any governmental entity that uses automatic license plate reader  
12    systems pursuant to subsection (2) of section 3 of this act must update  
13    those systems from the databases enumerated in such subsection at the  
14    beginning of each law enforcement agency shift if such updates are  
15    available.

16            (3) Any governmental entity that uses automatic license plate reader  
17    systems pursuant to subsection (2) of section 3 of this act may manually  
18    enter a license plate number into the automatic license plate reader  
19    system only when a law enforcement officer determines that the vehicle or  
20    individuals associated with the license plate number are relevant and  
21    material to an ongoing criminal or missing persons investigation subject  
22    to the following limitations:

23            (a) Any manual entry must document the reason for the entry; and  
24            (b) Manual entries must be automatically purged at the end of each  
25    law enforcement agency shift.

26            Sec. 5. (1)(a) An operator of an automatic license plate reader  
27    system, upon the request of a governmental entity or a defendant in a  
28    criminal case, shall take all necessary steps to preserve captured plate  
29    data in its possession for fourteen days pending the issuance of a court  
30    order under subsection (2) of this section.

31            (b) A requesting governmental entity or defendant in a criminal case

1   must specify in a written sworn statement:

2       (i) The particular camera or cameras for which captured plate data  
3   must be preserved or the particular license plate for which captured  
4   plate data must be preserved; and

5       (ii) The date or dates and timeframes for which captured plate data  
6   must be preserved.

7       (2) A governmental entity or defendant in a criminal case may apply  
8   for a court order for disclosure of captured plate data, which shall be  
9   issued by the court if the governmental entity or defendant in a criminal  
10   case offers specific and articulable facts showing there are reasonable  
11   grounds to believe the captured plate data is relevant and material to an  
12   ongoing criminal or missing persons investigation or criminal prosecution  
13   or defense.

14       (3) Captured plate data held by a governmental entity shall be  
15   destroyed if the application for an order under subsection (2) of this  
16   section is denied or at the end of six months, whichever is later.

17       (4) A governmental entity may obtain, receive, or use privately held  
18   captured plate data only pursuant to a warrant issued under the Federal  
19   Rules of Criminal Procedure or sections 29-401 to 29-411 or the procedure  
20   described in subsection (2) of this section, and only if the private  
21   automatic license plate reader system retains captured plate data for  
22   fourteen days or fewer.

23       Sec. 6. Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (3)(b) of this  
24   section, any governmental entity that uses an automatic license plate  
25   reader system shall:

26       (1) Adopt a policy governing use of the system and conspicuously  
27   post the policy on the governmental entity's Internet web site or, if no  
28   web site is available, in it's main governmental office;

29       (2) Adopt a privacy policy to ensure that captured plate data is not  
30   shared in violation of the Automatic License Plate Reader Privacy Act or  
31   any other law, and conspicuously post the privacy policy on the

1    governmental entity's Internet web site or, if no web site is available,  
2    in its main governmental office; and

3        (3)(a) Report annually to the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement  
4    and Criminal Justice on its automatic license plate reader practices and  
5    usage. The report shall also be conspicuously posted on the governmental  
6    entity's Internet web site or, if no web site is available, in its main  
7    governmental office. The report shall include:

8            (i) The number of license plates scanned;

9            (ii) The names of the lists against which captured plate data was  
10    checked, the number of confirmed matches, and the number of matches that  
11    upon further investigation did not correlate to an alert;

12            (iii) The number of matches resulting in arrest and prosecution;

13            (iv) The number of preservation requests received under subsection  
14    (1) of section 5 of this act;

15            (v) The number of preservation requests issued under subsection (1)  
16    of section 5 of this act, broken down by the number of preservation  
17    requests issued to other governmental entities and the number of  
18    preservation requests issued to private automatic license plate reader  
19    systems;

20            (vi) The number of disclosure orders received under subsection (2)  
21    of section 5 of this act;

22            (vii) The number of disclosure orders applied for under subsection  
23    (2) of section 5 of this act, broken down by:

24            (A) The number of applications for disclosure orders to governmental  
25    entities under subsection (2) of section 5 of this act that were denied;

26            (B) The number of orders for disclosure to governmental entities  
27    under subsection (2) of section 5 of this act resulting in arrest and  
28    prosecution;

29            (C) The number of applications for disclosure orders to private  
30    automatic license plate reader systems under subsection (2) of section 5  
31    of this act that were denied; and

1       (D) The number of orders for disclosure to private automatic license  
2 plate reader systems under subsection (2) of section 5 of this act  
3 resulting in arrest and prosecution;

4           (viii) The number of manually-entered license plate numbers under  
5 subsection (3) of section 4 of this act, broken down by reason justifying  
6 the entry, the number of confirmed matches, and the number of matches  
7 that upon further investigation did not correlate to an alert; and

8           (ix) Any changes in policy that affect privacy concerns.

9           (b) The reporting requirements of this subsection shall not apply to  
10 weighing stations using an automatic license plate reader system pursuant  
11 to subdivision (2)(e) of section 3 of this act.

12           Sec. 7. No captured plate data and no evidence derived therefrom  
13 may be received in evidence in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding  
14 before any court, grand jury, department, officer, agency, regulatory  
15 body, legislative committee, or other authority of this state, or a  
16 political subdivision thereof, if the disclosure of that information  
17 would be in violation of the Automatic License Plate Reader Privacy Act.

18           Sec. 8. Any person who violates the Automatic License Plate Reader  
19 Privacy Act shall be subject to legal action for damages. Such action may  
20 be brought by any other person claiming that a violation of the act has  
21 injured his or her business, his or her person, or his or her reputation.  
22 A person so injured shall be entitled to actual damages, including mental  
23 pain and suffering endured by him or her on account of violation of the  
24 provisions of the act, and reasonable attorney's fees and costs of  
25 litigation.

26           Sec. 9. (1) Captured plate data is not considered a public record  
27 for the purposes of sections 84-712 to 84-712.09 and may only be  
28 disclosed to the person to whom the vehicle is registered or with the  
29 prior written consent of the person to whom the vehicle is registered.

30           (2) Upon the presentation to an appropriate governmental entity of a  
31 valid, outstanding protection order pursuant to the Protection from

1    Domestic Abuse Act, the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic  
2    Violence Protection Orders Act, or section 28-311.09 or 28-311.10  
3    protecting the driver of a vehicle jointly registered with or registered  
4    solely in the name of the individual against whom the order was issued,  
5    captured plate data may not be disclosed except pursuant to a disclosure  
6    order under subsection (2) of section 5 of this act or as the result of a  
7    match pursuant to subsection (2) of section 3 of this act.