93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced 02/06/04, by Michael J. Madigan

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/11-208.3

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-208.3

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Makes a technical change in a Section concerning administrative adjudication of parking violations.

LRB093 17458 DRH 43124 b

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AN ACT in relation to transportation.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing
Section 11-208.3 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/11-208.3) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-208.3)

Sec. 11-208.3. Administrative adjudication of violations
of traffic regulations concerning the standing, parking, or
condition of vehicles.

(a) Any municipality may provide by ordinance for a system 10 of administrative adjudication of vehicular standing and 11 parking violations and vehicle compliance violations 12 as defined in this subsection. The administrative system shall 13 14 have as its purpose the fair and efficient enforcement of 15 municipal regulations through the administrative adjudication of violations of municipal ordinances regulating the standing 16 17 and parking of vehicles, the condition and use of vehicle equipment, and the display of municipal wheel tax licenses 18 19 within the municipality's borders. The administrative system shall only have authority only to adjudicate civil offenses 20 carrying fines not in excess of \$250 that occur after the 21 22 effective date of the ordinance adopting such a system under 23 this Section. For purposes of this Section, "compliance violation" means a violation of a municipal regulation 24 25 governing the condition or use of equipment on a vehicle or 26 governing the display of a municipal wheel tax license.

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(b) Any ordinance establishing a system of administrative adjudication under this Section shall provide for:

(1) A traffic compliance administrator authorized to
adopt, distribute and process parking and compliance
violation notices and other notices required by this
Section, collect money paid as fines and penalties for

violation of parking and compliance ordinances, and
 operate an administrative adjudication system. The traffic
 compliance administrator also may make a certified report
 to the Secretary of State under Section 6-306.5.

5 (2) A parking, standing, or compliance violation 6 notice that shall specify the date, time, and place of 7 violation of parking, standing, or compliance а regulation; the particular regulation violated; the fine 8 and any penalty that may be assessed for late payment, when 9 10 so provided by ordinance; the vehicle make and state 11 registration number; and the identification number of the 12 person issuing the notice. With regard to municipalities with a population of 1 million or more, it shall be grounds 13 parking violation if the State for dismissal of a 14 registration number 15 or vehicle make specified is 16 incorrect. The violation notice shall state that the 17 payment of the indicated fine, and of any applicable penalty for late payment, shall operate as a final 18 disposition of the violation. The notice also shall contain 19 20 information as to the availability of a hearing in which the violation may be contested on its merits. The violation 21 notice shall specify the time and manner in which a hearing 22 23 may be had.

(3) Service of the parking, standing, or compliance 24 25 violation notice by affixing the original or a facsimile of the notice to an unlawfully parked vehicle or by handing 26 27 the notice to the operator of a vehicle if he or she is 28 present. A person authorized by ordinance to issue and 29 serve parking, standing, and compliance violation notices 30 shall certify as to the correctness of the facts entered on 31 the violation notice by signing his or her name to the 32 notice at the time of service or in the case of a notice produced by a computerized device, by signing a single 33 certificate to be kept by the traffic compliance 34 administrator attesting to the correctness of all notices 35 36 produced by the device while it was under his or her

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1 control. The original or a facsimile of the violation 2 notice or, in the case of a notice produced by a 3 computerized device, a printed record generated by the device showing the facts entered on the notice, shall be 4 5 retained by the traffic compliance administrator, and 6 shall be a record kept in the ordinary course of business. 7 A parking, standing, or compliance violation notice issued, signed and served in accordance with this Section, 8 9 a copy of the notice, or the computer generated record 10 shall be prima facie correct and shall be prima facie 11 evidence of the correctness of the facts shown on the notice. The notice, copy, or computer generated record 12 shall be admissible in any subsequent administrative or 13 legal proceedings. 14

(4) An opportunity for a hearing for the registered 15 16 owner of the vehicle cited in the parking, standing, or 17 compliance violation notice in which the owner may contest the merits of the alleged violation, and during which 18 formal or technical rules of evidence shall not apply; 19 20 provided, however, that under Section 11-1306 of this Code the lessee of a vehicle cited in the violation notice 21 likewise shall be provided an opportunity for a hearing of 22 23 the same kind afforded the registered owner. The hearings shall be recorded, and the person conducting the hearing on 24 25 behalf of the traffic compliance administrator shall be empowered to administer oaths and to secure by subpoena 26 27 both the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the 28 production of relevant books and papers. Persons appearing 29 at a hearing under this Section may be represented by 30 counsel at their expense. The ordinance may also provide 31 for internal administrative review following the decision 32 of the hearing officer.

(5) Service of additional notices, sent by first class
 United States mail, postage prepaid, to the address of the
 registered owner of the cited vehicle as recorded with the
 Secretary of State or, under Section 11-1306 of this Code,

to the lessee of the cited vehicle at the last address known to the lessor of the cited vehicle at the time of lease. The service shall be deemed complete as of the date of deposit in the United States mail. The notices shall be in the following sequence and shall include but not be limited to the information specified herein:

(i) A second notice of violation. This notice shall 7 specify the date and location of the violation cited in 8 9 the parking, standing, or compliance violation notice, 10 the particular regulation violated, the vehicle make 11 and state registration number, the fine and any penalty that may be assessed for late payment when so provided 12 by ordinance, the availability of a hearing in which 13 the violation may be contested on its merits, and the 14 time and manner in which the hearing may be had. The 15 16 notice of violation shall also state that failure 17 either to pay the indicated fine and any applicable penalty, or to appear at a hearing on the merits in the 18 time and manner specified, will result in a final 19 20 determination of violation liability for the cited violation in the amount of 21 the fine or penalty indicated, and that, upon the occurrence of a final 22 23 determination of violation liability for the failure, and the exhaustion of, or failure to exhaust, available 24 administrative or judicial procedures for review, any 25 unpaid fine or penalty will constitute a debt due and 26 27 owing the municipality.

28 (ii) A notice of final determination of parking, standing, or compliance violation liability. This 29 30 notice shall be sent following a final determination of 31 parking, standing, or compliance violation liability 32 and the conclusion of judicial review procedures taken under this Section. The notice shall state that the 33 unpaid fine or penalty is a debt due and owing the 34 municipality. The notice shall contain warnings that 35 failure to pay any fine or penalty due and owing the 36

1 municipality within the time specified may result in 2 the municipality's filing of a petition in the Circuit 3 Court to have the unpaid fine or penalty rendered a 4 judgment as provided by this Section, or may result in 5 suspension of the person's drivers license for failure 6 to pay fines or penalties for 10 or more parking 7 violations under Section 6-306.5.

(6) A Notice of impending drivers license suspension. 8 9 This notice shall be sent to the person liable for any fine 10 or penalty that remains due and owing on 10 or more parking 11 violations. The notice shall state that failure to pay the 12 fine or penalty owing within 45 days of the notice's date will result in the municipality notifying the Secretary of 13 State that the person is eligible for initiation of 14 suspension proceedings under Section 6-306.5 of this Code. 15 16 The notice shall also state that the person may obtain a 17 photostatic copy of an original ticket imposing a fine or penalty by sending a self addressed, stamped envelope to 18 the municipality along with a request for the photostatic 19 20 copy. The notice of impending drivers license suspension shall be sent by first class United States mail, postage 21 prepaid, to the address recorded with the Secretary of 22 State. 23

(7) Final determinations of violation liability. A 24 final determination of violation liability shall occur 25 26 following failure to pay the fine or penalty after a 27 hearing officer's determination of violation liability and 28 the exhaustion of or failure to exhaust any administrative review procedures provided by ordinance. Where a person 29 30 fails to appear at a hearing to contest the alleged 31 violation in the time and manner specified in a prior 32 mailed notice, the hearing officer's determination of violation liability shall become final: (A) upon denial of 33 a timely petition to set aside that determination, or (B) 34 upon expiration of the period for filing the petition 35 without a filing having been made. 36

1 (8) A petition to set aside a determination of parking, 2 standing, or compliance violation liability that may be 3 filed by a person owing an unpaid fine or penalty. The petition shall be filed with and ruled upon by the traffic 4 5 compliance administrator in the manner and within the time 6 specified by ordinance. The grounds for the petition may be limited to: (A) the person not having been the owner or 7 lessee of the cited vehicle on the date the violation 8 9 notice was issued, (B) the person having already paid the 10 fine or penalty for the violation in question, and (C) 11 excusable failure to appear at or request a new date for a 12 hearing. With regard to municipalities with a population of 1 million or more, it shall be grounds for dismissal of a 13 parking violation if the State registration number or 14 specified is incorrect. After 15 vehicle make the 16 determination of parking, standing, or compliance 17 violation liability has been set aside upon a showing of just cause, the registered owner shall be provided with a 18 hearing on the merits for that violation. 19

(9) Procedures for non-residents. Procedures by which
persons who are not residents of the municipality may
contest the merits of the alleged violation without
attending a hearing.

(10) A schedule of civil fines for violations of
vehicular standing, parking, and compliance regulations
enacted by ordinance pursuant to this Section, and a
schedule of penalties for late payment of the fines,
provided, however, that the total amount of the fine and
penalty for any one violation shall not exceed \$250.

(11) Other provisions as are necessary and proper to
 carry into effect the powers granted and purposes stated in
 this Section.

33 (c) Any municipality establishing vehicular standing, 34 parking, and compliance regulations under this Section may also 35 provide by ordinance for a program of vehicle immobilization 36 for the purpose of facilitating enforcement of those

regulations. The program of vehicle immobilization shall provide for immobilizing any eligible vehicle upon the public way by presence of a restraint in a manner to prevent operation of the vehicle. Any ordinance establishing a program of vehicle immobilization under this Section shall provide:

6 (1) Criteria for the designation of vehicles eligible 7 for immobilization. A vehicle shall be eligible for 8 immobilization when the registered owner of the vehicle has 9 accumulated the number of unpaid final determinations of 10 parking, standing, or compliance violation liability as 11 determined by ordinance.

(2) A notice of impending vehicle immobilization and a
right to a hearing to challenge the validity of the notice
by disproving liability for the unpaid final
determinations of parking, standing, or compliance
violation liability listed on the notice.

17 (3) The right to a prompt hearing after a vehicle has 18 been immobilized or subsequently towed without payment of 19 the outstanding fines and penalties on parking, standing, 20 or compliance violations for which final determinations 21 have been issued. An order issued after the hearing is a 22 final administrative decision within the meaning of 23 Section 3-101 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(4) A post immobilization and post-towing notice
advising the registered owner of the vehicle of the right
to a hearing to challenge the validity of the impoundment.

(d) Judicial review of final determinations of parking,
standing, and compliance violations and final administrative
decisions issued after hearings regarding vehicle
immobilization and impoundment made under this Section shall be
subject to the provisions of the Administrative Review Law.

32 (e) Any fine, penalty, or part of any fine or any penalty 33 remaining unpaid after the exhaustion of, or the failure to 34 exhaust, administrative remedies created under this Section 35 and the conclusion of any judicial review procedures shall be a 36 debt due and owing the municipality and, as such, may be

1 collected in accordance with applicable law. Payment in full of 2 any fine or penalty resulting from a standing, parking, or 3 compliance violation shall constitute a final disposition of 4 that violation.

5 (f) After the expiration of the period within which 6 judicial review may be sought for a final determination of parking, standing, or compliance violation, the municipality 7 8 may commence a proceeding in the Circuit Court for purposes of 9 obtaining a judgment on the final determination of violation. Nothing in this Section shall prevent a municipality from 10 11 consolidating multiple final determinations of parking, 12 standing, or compliance violation against a person in a 13 proceeding. Upon commencement of the action, the municipality shall file a certified copy of the final determination of 14 15 parking, standing, or compliance violation, which shall be accompanied by a certification that recites facts sufficient to 16 17 show that the final determination of violation was issued in accordance with this Section and the applicable municipal 18 19 ordinance. Service of the summons and a copy of the petition 20 may be by any method provided by Section 2-203 of the Code of Civil Procedure or by certified mail, return receipt requested, 21 22 provided that the total amount of fines and penalties for final 23 determinations of parking, standing, or compliance violations 24 does not exceed \$2500. If the court is satisfied that the final determination of parking, standing, or compliance violation 25 26 was entered in accordance with the requirements of this Section 27 and the applicable municipal ordinance, and that the registered 28 owner or the lessee, as the case may be, had an opportunity for 29 an administrative hearing and for judicial review as provided 30 in this Section, the court shall render judgment in favor of 31 the municipality and against the registered owner or the lessee 32 for the amount indicated in the final determination of parking, standing, or compliance violation, plus costs. The judgment 33 shall have the same effect and may be enforced in the same 34 35 manner as other judgments for the recovery of money. (Source: P.A. 92-695, eff. 1-1-03.) 36