

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **80th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1995**
4 **By: Senator Walters**

A Bill

ACT 753 OF 1995
SENATE BILL 351

5 *By: Representatives Mullenix, Allen, T. Smith, and Angel*
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 27-49-219 TO AUTHORIZE
10 POLICE AGENCIES TO EQUIP THEIR VEHICLES WITH BLUE LIGHTS
11 OR A COMBINATION OF BLUE, RED OR WHITE LIGHTS; AND FOR
12 OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

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15 "AUTHORIZE POLICE AGENCIES TO EQUIP
16 THEIR VEHICLES WITH BLUE LIGHTS OR A
17 COMBINATION OF BLUE, RED OR WHITE
18 LIGHTS."

19
20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 27-49-219(d) is amended to read as follows:

23 "(d) (1) Authorized emergency vehicle means authorized emergency
24 vehicles which shall include:

25 (A) Motor vehicles used by state, county, or city and
26 municipal police agencies, all of which shall be equipped with blue or blue,
27 red or white rotating or flashing emergency lights;

28 (B) Motor vehicles used by state, county, city, or
29 municipal fire departments, motor vehicles owned and used by volunteer fire
30 fighters while engaged in official duties, motor vehicles used by emergency
31 medical technicians certified by the Department of Health or privately owned
32 fire departments, and ambulances used solely for ambulance purposes which are
33 approved as ambulances in accordance with state and federal highway safety
34 standards, all of which shall be equipped with red rotating or flashing
35 emergency lights. Flashing emergency lights shall be used by volunteer fire
36 fighters solely while engaged in the performance of duties as volunteer fire

1 fighters and by emergency medical technicians solely while engaged in the
2 performance of duties with an ambulance service licensed by the Department of
3 Health or an organized rescue squad or team; and

4 (C) Motor vehicles owned by state, county, and municipal
5 agencies whose use is determined by the state agency to be required for
6 dangerous or hazardous services and motor vehicles owned by public service
7 corporations or private individuals whose use is determined by the
8 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, in accordance with regulations established by
9 the commissioner to prevent abuses thereof, to be for extra hazardous service,
10 may be equipped with amber flashing or rotating emergency or warning lights
11 which shall not qualify it as an emergency vehicle, but which shall, during
12 hazardous uses thereof, display its amber flashing or rotating emergency or
13 warning light in order that other motorists and the public may be aware of the
14 special or hazardous use of the vehicle and shall exercise caution in
15 approaching the vehicle at all times while the amber flashing or rotating
16 emergency or warning light is in operation. All hazardous service vehicles
17 shall conform to regular traffic signals and speed limits during their
18 operation.

19 (2) It shall be unlawful to install, operate, or use any rotating
20 or flashing light on any motor vehicle except as authorized in this
21 subsection."

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23 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
24 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
25 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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27 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
28 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
29 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
30 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
31 act are declared to be severable.

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33 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
34 hereby repealed.

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1 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the General
2 Assembly that present law provides that police vehicles must be equipped with
3 blue rotating or flashing emergency lights; that a combination of *blue, red,*
4 *amber or white* rotating or flashing emergency lights are more visible during
5 daylight hours; that law enforcement agencies should be given the option of
6 equipping their vehicles with either blue lights or *blue, red, white, or amber*
7 lights; that this act so provides; and that this act should go into effect
8 immediately in order to allow police agencies to exercise this option as soon
9 as possible. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this act
10 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and
11 safety shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and
12 approval.

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/s/Walters

APPROVED: 3-23-95

As Engrossed: 2/7/95 2/13/95 3/17/95

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