

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: H3/31/99 S4/9/99

82nd General Assembly

# A Bill

Regular Session, 1999

HOUSE BILL 2258

By: Representative Allison

## For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE FAILURE TO USE TURN SIGNALS TO MAKE LANE CHANGES MAY BE USED AS EVIDENCE IN CIVIL ACTIONS INVOLVING TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

## Subtitle

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT THE FAILURE TO USE TURN SIGNALS TO MAKE LANE CHANGES MAY BE USED AS EVIDENCE IN CIVIL ACTIONS INVOLVING TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 27-51-403 is amended to read as follow:

"27-51-403. Signals for turning, lane changes, stopping, or decreasing speed required.

(a)(1) No person shall turn a vehicle from a direct course upon a highway unless and until the movement can be made with reasonable safety and then only after giving a clearly audible signal by sounding the horn if any pedestrian may be affected by the movement or after giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided in subsection (b) of this section in the event any other vehicle may be affected by the movement.

(2) No person shall change lanes on multi-laned highways unless and until the movement can be made with reasonable safety and then only after giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided in subsection (b) of this section in the event any other vehicle may be affected by the lane change.

1 (b) A signal of intention to turn right or left shall be given  
2 continuously during not less than the last one hundred feet (100') traveled by  
3 the vehicle before turning and a signal of intention to change lanes shall be  
4 given continuously during not less than three (3) seconds before executing the  
5 movement.

6 (c) No person shall stop or suddenly decrease the speed of a vehicle  
7 without first giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided in this  
8 subchapter to the driver of any vehicle immediately to the rear when there is  
9 opportunity to give such signal.

10 (d) The failure to give a turn signal as required in this section shall  
11 not subject the offender any fine or other criminal penalty but may be used as  
12 evidence in any civil action involving a traffic accident."

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14 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 27-51-404 is amended to read as follows:

15 "27-51-404. Signals to stop or turn or change lanes.

16 (a) Any stop or turn signal or signal for changing lanes when required  
17 in this subchapter shall be given either by means of the hand and arm or by  
18 signal lamps, except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section.

19 (b) Any motor vehicle in use on a highway shall be equipped with, and  
20 the required signal shall be given by, signal lamps when the distance from the  
21 center of the top of the steering post to the left outside limit of the body,  
22 cab, or load of the motor vehicle exceeds twenty-four inches (24") or when the  
23 distance from the center of the top of the steering post to the rear limit of  
24 the body or load exceeds fourteen feet (14'). The latter measurement shall  
25 apply to any single vehicle and also to any combination of vehicles.

26 (c) The failure to give a turn signal as required in this section shall  
27 not subject the offender any fine or other criminal penalty but may be used as  
28 evidence in any civil action involving a traffic accident."

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30 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
31 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
32 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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34 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
35 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
36 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without

1 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
2 act are declared to be severable.

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4 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
5 hereby repealed.

6 /s/ Allison  
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