
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1536 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY ZIMMERMAN, JAMES, WARD, TALLMAN, SAYLOR AND
GILLEN, JUNE 13, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JUNE 13, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in general provisions, further providing for the
3 definition of "emergency vehicle"; and, in other required
4 equipment, further providing for visual signals on authorized
5 vehicles.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. The definition of "emergency vehicle" in section
9 102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes,
10 amended July 8, 2016 (P.L.477, No.75), is amended to read:
11 § 102. Definitions.

12 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
13 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific
14 provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when
15 used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly
16 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

17 * * *

18 "Emergency vehicle." A State or county emergency management
19 vehicle, fire department vehicle, police vehicle, sheriff

1 vehicle, ambulance, advanced life support squad vehicle, basic
2 life support squad vehicle, emergency canteen support service
3 organization vehicle, blood delivery vehicle, human organ
4 delivery vehicle, hazardous material response vehicle, armed
5 forces emergency vehicle, one vehicle operated by a coroner or
6 chief county medical examiner and one vehicle operated by a
7 chief deputy coroner or deputy chief county medical examiner
8 used for answering emergency calls, a vehicle owned by or leased
9 to a regional emergency medical services council that is used as
10 authorized by the Department of Health to respond to an actual
11 or potential disaster, mass casualty situation or substantial
12 threat to public health, a vehicle owned by a county or regional
13 police association and operated by a police officer that is used
14 for police transport or victim extraction, a vehicle that is
15 owned and operated by a county correctional institution in a
16 city of the first class and used to respond to an emergency at a
17 correctional institution in a city of the first class or to
18 escort an ambulance which is transporting sick or injured
19 prisoners in a city of the first class, any vehicle operated by
20 a special agent, special agent supervisor, narcotics agent or
21 narcotics agent supervisor while performing official duties as
22 employees of the Office of Attorney General, any vehicle owned
23 and operated by the Philadelphia Parking Authority established
24 in accordance with 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 55 (relating to parking
25 authorities) and used in the enforcement of 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 57
26 (relating to taxicabs and limousines in first class cities), a
27 vehicle owned and operated by the Pennsylvania Turnpike
28 Commission that is used by an emergency service responder as
29 dispatched by the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's traffic
30 operations center, or any other vehicle designated by the State

1 Police under section 6106 (relating to designation of emergency
2 vehicles by Pennsylvania State Police), or a privately owned
3 vehicle used in answering an emergency call when used by any of
4 the following:

5 (1) A police chief and assistant chief.

6 (2) A fire chief, assistant chief and, when a fire
7 company has three or more fire vehicles, a second or third
8 assistant chief, except when merging multiple stations
9 requires additional chiefs, but no more than two chiefs.

10 (3) A fire police captain and fire police lieutenant.

11 (4) An ambulance corps commander and assistant
12 commander.

13 (5) A river rescue commander and assistant commander.

14 (6) A county emergency management coordinator.

15 (7) A fire marshal.

16 (8) A rescue service chief and assistant chief.

17 (9) The chief or operations director of a county
18 hazardous materials response team.

19 * * *

20 Section 2. Section 4572(a)(1) of Title 75 is amended to
21 read:

22 § 4572. Visual signals on authorized vehicles.

23 (a) Flashing or revolving blue lights.--Ambulance personnel,
24 volunteer firefighters, certified volunteer search and rescue
25 organization members and owners and handlers of dogs used in
26 tracking humans may each equip one motor vehicle with no more
27 than two flashing or revolving blue lights.

28 (1) (i) In order to be eligible to display lights on
29 their vehicles under this subsection, the names of the
30 ambulance personnel, volunteer firefighters and certified

1 volunteer search and rescue organization members shall be
2 submitted to the nearest station of the Pennsylvania
3 State Police on a list signed by the chief of the
4 ambulance or fire department or company, the head of the
5 search and rescue organization, and each dog owner and
6 handler shall register at the nearest Pennsylvania State
7 Police station.

8 (ii) In addition to subparagraph (i), a person must
9 also have a decal or placard conspicuously displayed on
10 the vehicle, issued by and indicating the department,
11 company or organization to which the person belongs.

12 * * *

13 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.