

SENATE BILL NO. 42—COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
(ON BEHALF OF THE NEVADA HIGHWAY PATROL DIVISION)

PREFILED DECEMBER 20, 2012

Referred to Committee on Transportation

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the operation of certain emergency vehicles. (BDR 43-339)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; revising the provisions governing the privilege of certain emergency and other vehicles to disregard certain traffic regulations under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Under existing law, drivers of: (1) authorized emergency vehicles; (2) official
2 vehicles of regulatory agencies; and (3) vehicles escorting a funeral have the
3 privilege, under certain circumstances, to disregard stop signs or signals, speed
4 limits and certain other traffic regulations, but only if the vehicle is making use of
5 lights, sirens, or other audio or visual signals as required by law. (NRS 484B.700)
6 This bill confers on drivers of a vehicle of a law enforcement agency the privilege
7 to disregard those traffic regulations without using such audio or visual signals, but
8 only when the driver of the vehicle is actively engaged in the detection,
9 identification or apprehension of an actual or suspected violator of the law.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 484B.700 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:
3 484B.700 1. The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle
4 or an official vehicle of a regulatory agency, when responding to an
5 emergency call or when in pursuit of an actual or suspected violator



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1 of the law or when responding to but not upon returning from a fire
2 alarm, or a vehicle escorting a funeral procession, may:

3 (a) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after
4 slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation.

5 (b) Exceed any speed limits so long as the driver does not
6 endanger life or property, except that a vehicle escorting a funeral
7 procession may not exceed the speed limit by more than 15 miles
8 per hour to overtake the procession and direct traffic at the next
9 intersection.

10 (c) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or
11 turning in specified directions. The driver of a vehicle escorting a
12 funeral procession may direct the movements of the vehicles in the
13 procession in a similar manner and may direct the movements of
14 other vehicles.

15 2. ~~The~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the*
16 *privileges granted in subsection 1 apply only when the vehicle is*
17 *making use of:*

18 (a) Audible and visual signals; or

19 (b) Visual signals only,

20 ➔ as required by law.

21 3. *The privileges granted in subsection 1 apply to the driver of*
22 *a vehicle of a law enforcement agency regardless of compliance*
23 *with subsection 2 if the driver is actively engaged in the detection,*
24 *identification or apprehension of an actual or suspected violator*
25 *of the law.*

26 ~~3-1~~ 4. The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, *a law*
27 *enforcement vehicle* or an official vehicle of a regulatory agency
28 may park or stand without regard to the provisions of chapters 484A
29 to 484E, inclusive, of NRS, if the driver makes use of a warning
30 lamp.

31 ~~1-1~~ 5. The provisions of this section do not relieve the driver
32 from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons
33 and do not protect the driver from the consequences of the driver's
34 reckless disregard for the safety of others.

35 6. *As used in this section, "law enforcement agency" means:*

36 (a) *A police department;*

37 (b) *A sheriff's office;*

38 (c) *The Capitol Police Division, the Investigation Division or*
39 *the Nevada Highway Patrol Division of the Department of Public*
40 *Safety; or*

41 (d) *An agency of the United States engaged primarily in law*
42 *enforcement work.*

43 Sec. 2. This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

