WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1998

ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 682

(By Senator SCICIONOZZO, ET AL.)

PASSED March 13, 1998
In Effect 90 Days From Passage
ENROLLED

Senate Bill No. 682

(BY SENATORS SCHOONOVER, ROSS AND HELMICK)

[Passed March 13, 1998; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section nineteen, article fifteen, chapter seventeen-c of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to approved additional lighting equipment for motor vehicles; authorizing additional lighting equipment to be used by funeral hearses; and authorizing the use of electroluminescent solid state ceramic front identification plates.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section nineteen, article fifteen, chapter seventeen-c of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 15. EQUIPMENT.

§17C-15-19. Additional lighting equipment.
(a) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two side cowl or fender lamps which shall emit an amber or white light without glare.

(b) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one running board courtesy lamp on each side thereof which shall emit a white or amber light without glare.

(c) Except for school buses as provided in this subsection, any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than two back-up lamps either separately or in combination with other lamps, but any such back-up lamp shall not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward motion. School buses used for the transportation of school children in this state, whether owned and operated by a county board of education or privately owned and operated under contract with a county board of education, shall be equipped with two back-up lamps, one on each side of the rear door, with white lens or reflectors, capable of lighting the roadway and objects to the rear of the bus for safe backing during darkness, and which, at the option of the county board of education, may each provide fifty candlepower in illumination intensity instead of thirty-two candlepower.

(d) Any vehicle may be equipped with lamps which may be used for the purpose of warning the operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching, overtaking or passing, and when so equipped may display such warning in addition to any other warning signals required by this article. The lamps used to display such warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or any shade of color between white and amber. The lamps used to display such warning to the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practi-
37 cable, and shall show simultaneously flashing amber or
38 red lights, or any shade of color between amber and red.
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40 (e) Vehicles used by "rural mail carriers" in carrying or
delivering mail in rural areas may be equipped with
amber flashing lights. Such lights shall be on the front
and rear of the vehicle and may be activated when the
vehicle is stopped or decreasing speed in order to stop in
the course of carrying, delivering or picking up mail along
the route.

46 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to
the contrary, any motor vehicle may be equipped with not
more than one electroluminescent solid state ceramic front
identification plate without glare, mounted in confor-
mance with the manufacturer's specifications.

51 (g) Vehicles used as the lead car in a funeral procession
are hereby authorized to be equipped with, but are not
required to use, purple lamps or purple flashing lights.
Such lamps may be used for the purpose of warning the
operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular
traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in
approaching, overtaking or passing a funeral procession,
and when so equipped may display such warning in
addition to any other warning signals required by this
article. The lamps or flashing lights used to display such
warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level
and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall
display simultaneously either illuminated or flashing
purple lights. The lamps used to display such warning to
the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely
spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simulta-
neously flashing or illuminated purple lights.
That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.
In effect ninety days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within approved this the 6th day of April, 1998.

Governor