

SB 682

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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1998



ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 682

(By Senator SCHOONOVER, ET AL)



PASSED MARCH 13, 1998

In Effect 90 DAYS FROM Passage

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SENATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

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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.

1 (a) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more
2 than two side cowl or fender lamps which shall emit an
3 amber or white light without glare.

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

8 (c) Except for school buses as provided in this subsec-
9 tion, any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more
10 than two back-up lamps either separately or in combina-
11 tion with other lamps, but any such back-up lamp shall
12 not be lighted when the motor vehicle is in forward
13 motion. School buses used for the transportation of school
14 children in this state, whether owned and operated by a
15 county board of education or privately owned and oper-
16 ated under contract with a county board of education,
17 shall be equipped with two back-up lamps, one on each
18 side of the rear door, with white lens or reflectors, capable
19 of lighting the roadway and objects to the rear of the bus
20 for safe backing during darkness, and which, at the option
21 of the county board of education, may each provide fifty
22 candlepower in illumination intensity instead of thirty-
23 two candlepower.

24 (d) Any vehicle may be equipped with lamps which may
25 be used for the purpose of warning the operators of other
26 vehicles of the presence of a vehicular traffic hazard
27 requiring the exercise of unusual care in approaching,
28 overtaking or passing, and when so equipped may display
29 such warning in addition to any other warning signals
30 required by this article. The lamps used to display such
31 warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level
32 and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall
33 display simultaneously flashing white or amber lights, or
34 any shade of color between white and amber. The lamps
35 used to display such warning to the rear shall be mounted
36 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.

39 (e) Vehicles used by "rural mail carriers" in carrying or
40 delivering mail in rural areas may be equipped with
41 amber flashing lights. Such lights shall be on the front
42 and rear of the vehicle and may be activated when the
43 vehicle is stopped or decreasing speed in order to stop in
44 the course of carrying, delivering or picking up mail along
45 the route.

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

51 (g) Vehicles used as the lead car in a funeral procession
52 are hereby authorized to be equipped with, but are not
53 required to use, purple lamps or purple flashing lights.
54 Such lamps may be used for the purpose of warning the
55 operators of other vehicles of the presence of a vehicular
56 traffic hazard requiring the exercise of unusual care in
57 approaching, overtaking or passing a funeral procession,
58 and when so equipped may display such warning in
59 addition to any other warning signals required by this
60 article. The lamps or flashing lights used to display such
61 warning to the front shall be mounted at the same level
62 and as widely spaced laterally as practicable and shall
63 display simultaneously either illuminated or flashing
64 purple lights. The lamps used to display such warning to
65 the rear shall be mounted at the same level and as widely
66 spaced laterally as practicable, and shall show simulta-
67 neously flashing or illuminated purple lights.

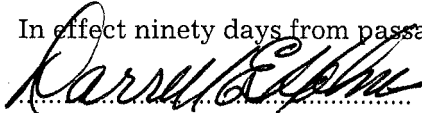
That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.



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Chairman Senate Committee

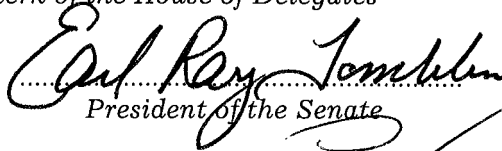

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Chairman House Committee

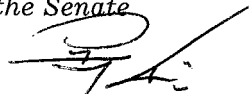
Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

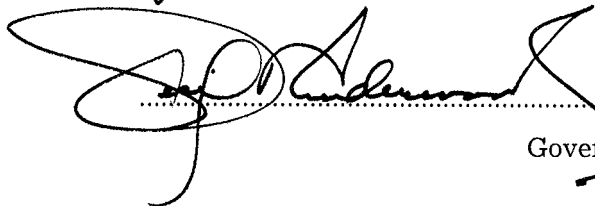

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Clerk of the Senate


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Clerk of the House of Delegates


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President of the Senate


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Speaker House of Delegates

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


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Governor

PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 3/26/98

Time 12:08 pm