WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2012

ENROLLED

Senate Bill No. 204
(By Senators Beach, Edgell, D. Facemire,
Unger, Klempa and Wills)

[Passed March 8, 2012; in effect ninety days from passage.]
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[Passed March 8, 2012; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §17C-13-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the removal of vehicles from state highways in order to restore traffic movement in emergency situations; and liability.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §17C-13-5 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 13. STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING.

§17C-13-5. Removal of vehicles parked, etc., on highways in emergencies; liability for costs of removal and storage; liens for towing and storage.

1 Whenever a vehicle has been stopped, parked or left standing upon any part of a highway or constitutes an obstruction to the restoration of traffic flow as the result of an accident or other emergency, any police officer or employee of the Division of Highways, duly authorized by the commissioner, may remove or order the removal of the vehicle, by towing or otherwise, to the nearest available established garage or parking lot for storage until called for by the owner or his or her agent. The owner is liable for the reasonable cost of removal and storage, and until payment of
the cost the garage or parking lot operator may retain possession of the vehicle subject to a lien for the amount due. The garage or parking lot operator may enforce his or her lien for towing and storage in the manner provided in section fourteen, article eleven, chapter thirty-eight of this code for the enforcement of other liens.
The 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 of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 30th Day of March, 2012.

Governor