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**By: Delegates Harkins, Bissett, Bonsack, Bozman, Brinkley, Conway, Elliott, Fry, Getty, Hecht, Jacobs, McClenahan, Minnick, Owings, Poole, Rudolph, Snodgrass, Stocksdale, Stull, and Preis**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 1996  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 5, 1996

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Volunteer Fire Company Officers - Emergency Equipment on Private Vehicles**

3 [TAG ftpo]FOR the purpose of clarifying that the highest ranking fireline officer and ~~the~~ certain  
4 officers of the ~~next highest~~ rank that is second in command in a volunteer fire  
5 company may have their privately owned vehicles equipped with red lights or signal  
6 devices which may be displayed under certain circumstances; limiting the maximum  
7 number of officers in a volunteer fire company who may have their privately owned  
8 vehicles equipped with red lights or signal devices which may be displayed under  
9 certain circumstances; and generally relating to red lights or signal devices on  
10 privately owned vehicles of volunteer fire company officers.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - Transportation  
13 Section 22-218(c)(2)(ii)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article - Transportation**

19 22-218.

20 (c) A person may not drive or move on any highway any vehicle or equipment that  
21 is equipped with or displays any light or signal device designed to emit an oscillating,  
22 rotating, blinking, or other type of emission of light, unless designated and authorized by

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1 the Administrator as indicated in paragraphs (1) through (9) of this subsection. The  
2 provisions of this section do not prohibit the display and use of any lighting device that  
3 may be permitted or required elsewhere in the Maryland Vehicle Law.

4 (2) (ii) ~~The fire chief, the assistant fire chief] OR HIGHEST RANKING~~  
5 ~~FIRELINE OFFICER, THE OFFICERS OF THE NEXT HIGHEST RANK, and the emergency~~  
6 ~~medical services commander for~~ IN each volunteer fire company, NO MORE THAN  
7 FIVE OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS may have their privately owned vehicles equipped  
8 with red lights or signal devices which may be displayed only while on route to or at the  
9 scene of an emergency-:

10 1. THE FIRE CHIEF OR THE HIGHEST RANKING FIRELINE  
11 OFFICER;

12 2. ONE OR MORE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEFS OR DEPUTY  
13 CHIEFS, WHICHEVER RANK IS SECOND IN COMMAND; AND

14 3. THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMANDER.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
16 October 1, 1996.