

Chapter 406

(House Bill 436)

AN ACT concerning

Vehicle Laws – Operation of Vehicle When Approaching a Tow Truck ~~or Service Vehicle~~

FOR the purpose of requiring drivers approaching ~~a tow truck or service vehicle that is~~ certain tow trucks that are stopped, standing, or parked on a highway and using certain visual signals, unless otherwise directed by a police officer or traffic control device, to make a lane change into an available lane not immediately adjacent to the tow truck ~~or service vehicle~~ under certain circumstances, or to slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe for certain existing conditions under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the rules of the road when approaching tow trucks ~~or service vehicles~~.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 21–405(e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Transportation
Section 22–218(c)(6) and (11)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

21–405.

(e) Unless otherwise directed by a police officer or a traffic control device, when an emergency vehicle, ~~A TOW TRUCK, OR A SERVICE VEHICLE OR A TOW TRUCK THAT IS PROPERLY REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 13–920 OF THIS ARTICLE~~ using any visual signal that meets the requirements of § 22–218 of this article is stopped, standing, or parked on a highway, the driver of a motor vehicle approaching the emergency vehicle, ~~OR TOW TRUCK, OR SERVICE VEHICLE~~ from the rear shall:

(1) If practicable and not otherwise prohibited, make a lane change into an available lane not immediately adjacent to the emergency vehicle, **OR TOW TRUCK, OR SERVICE VEHICLE** with due regard for safety and traffic conditions; or

(2) If the driver of the motor vehicle is unable to make a lane change in accordance with item (1) of this subsection, slow to a reasonable and prudent speed that is safe for existing weather, road, and vehicular or pedestrian traffic conditions.

22-218.

(c) (6) Service vehicles, rural letter carrier vehicles, slow moving farm vehicles, and tow trucks may be equipped with or display yellow or amber lights or signal devices.

(11) The yellow or amber lights or signal devices permitted on vehicles under paragraph (6) of this subsection may be flashed or oscillated or otherwise used only in the course of official duties, to indicate to the public that the vehicle is a slow moving vehicle or otherwise is impeding traffic.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2014.

Approved by the Governor, May 5, 2014.