

SENATE BILL 418

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R7

1999 Regular Session
(9r1103)

ENROLLED BILL
-- Judicial Proceedings/Commerce and Government Matters --

Introduced by **Senator Forehand**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Emergency Vehicle Privileges - Use of Audible Signal**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that an emergency vehicle that is parked or standing
4 may exercise certain emergency vehicle privileges without using any audible
5 signal; and generally relating to emergency vehicles.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article - Transportation
8 Section 21-106
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

1 **Article - Transportation**

2 21-106.

3 (a) Subject to the conditions stated in this section, the driver of an emergency
4 vehicle registered in any state may exercise the privileges set forth in this section
5 while:

- 6 (1) Responding to an emergency call;
- 7 (2) Pursuing a violator or suspected violator of the law; or
- 8 (3) Responding to, but not while returning from, a fire alarm.

9 (b) Under the circumstances stated in subsection (a) of this section, the driver
10 of an emergency vehicle may:

- 11 (1) Park or stand without regard to the other provisions of this title;
- 12 (2) Pass a red or stop signal, a stop sign, or a yield sign, but only after
13 slowing down as necessary for safety;
- 14 (3) Exceed any maximum speed limit, but only so long as the driver does
15 not endanger life or property; and
- 16 (4) Disregard any traffic control device or regulation governing direction
17 of movement or turning in a specified direction.

18 (c) (1) ~~The~~ SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE
19 privileges set forth in this section apply only while the emergency vehicle is using
20 audible and visual signals that meet the requirements of § 22-218 of this article,
21 except that:

22 (H) ~~{an} AN~~ emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not
23 be equipped with or display the visual signals; ~~AND~~

24 (H) ~~AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE, WHILE PARKED OR STANDING, NEED~~
25 ~~NOT USE AN AUDIBLE SIGNAL.~~

26 (2) THE PRIVILEGES SET FORTH IN SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF THIS SECTION
27 APPLY ONLY WHILE THE EMERGENCY VEHICLE IS USING VISUAL SIGNALS THAT
28 MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF § 22-218 OF THIS ARTICLE.

29 (3) The driver of an emergency vehicle may not use flashing lights or a
30 bell, siren, or exhaust whistle while returning from an emergency call or fire alarm,
31 except that fire apparatus carrying standing firemen may use flashing lights that are
32 visible only to the rear.

33 (d) This section does not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle from the
34 duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 October 1, 1999.