

HOUSE BILL 1230

R6

4lr2875

By: **Delegates McDermott, Arora, Glass, Hough, McComas, Parrott, and Smigiel**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Signal Devices on Personal Vehicles – Fire Police**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain volunteer firefighters acting as fire police to
4 have their privately owned vehicles equipped with red lights or signal devices
5 and to display the lights or signal devices while en route to or at the scene of an
6 emergency; repealing a certain limit on the number of certain members of a
7 volunteer fire company whose personal vehicles may be equipped with and
8 display certain lights; making certain stylistic changes; and generally relating
9 to signal devices on the personal vehicles of volunteer firefighters acting as fire
10 police.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Transportation
13 Section 22–218(c)(3)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 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) (3) (i) Vehicles of city, county, State, or federal fire departments or
21 duly constituted volunteer fire departments or rescue squads, or the Maryland
22 Institute for Emergency Medical Services System, may be equipped with or display red
23 and/or white lights or signal devices.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) [In each volunteer fire company, no more than five of the
2 following officers] **A MEMBER OF A DULY CONSTITUTED VOLUNTEER FIRE**
3 **DEPARTMENT** may have [their] **THE MEMBER'S** privately owned vehicles equipped
4 with red lights or signal devices [which] **THAT** may be displayed only while [on] **EN**
5 route to or at the scene of an emergency **IF THE MEMBER IS:**

6 1. The fire chief or the highest ranking fireline officer;

7 2. [One or more of the assistant chiefs or deputy chiefs,
8 whichever rank is second in command; and] **AN ASSISTANT OR A DEPUTY CHIEF;**

9 3. The emergency medical services commander; **OR**

10 4. **A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER WHO HAS RECEIVED**
11 **SWORN POLICE POWERS AND IS CARRYING OUT OFFICIAL FIRE POLICE DUTIES.**

12 (iii) 1. The fire police of each volunteer fire company may
13 have their privately owned vehicles equipped with red lights or signal devices
14 designed to emit an oscillating, rotating, blinking, or other type of emission of light.

15 2. The lights or signal devices may be flashed or
16 oscillated or otherwise used only while the vehicle is at the scene of an accident, flood,
17 or other emergency to which the volunteer fire company is responding.

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