



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

***Raised Bill No. 961***

LCO No. 3435

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:  
(TRA)

***AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY MEDICAL VEHICLES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 14-96p of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2003*):

4 (a) (1) No person shall display upon any motor vehicle any light  
5 visible from the front thereof other than white, yellow or amber, or any  
6 light other than red, yellow, amber or white visible from the rear  
7 thereof, except a light used with any school bus, without a written  
8 permit from the commissioner. If the Department of Transportation  
9 obtains from the commissioner such a permit covering more than one  
10 motor vehicle operated by the department, it may display the lights  
11 allowed under the permit on each such vehicle without placing a copy  
12 of the permit in each vehicle.

13 (2) Any vehicle accommodating fifteen or fewer handicapped  
14 students may use a flashing red light or lights during the time such  
15 vehicle is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging such  
16 handicapped students, any motor bus may carry a purple light or

17 lights, any interstate public service vehicle may carry a green light or  
18 lights, any taxicab may carry a lunar white light or lights, and any  
19 interstate commercial motor vehicle may display green identification  
20 lights, in front thereof, as the commissioner may permit.

21 (3) A vehicle being operated by [the chief executive officer of an  
22 emergency medical service organization] a licensed or certified  
23 ambulance service to transport personnel to emergencies, as defined in  
24 section 19a-175, an ambulance, as defined in section 19a-175, a vehicle  
25 being operated by a local fire marshal or a local director of emergency  
26 management may use a flashing red light or lights or flashing white  
27 head lamps and a flashing amber light while on the way to the scene of  
28 an emergency, except that an ambulance may use flashing lights of  
29 other colors specified by federal requirements for the manufacture of  
30 such vehicle. The chief executive officer of each such organization shall  
31 provide annually during the month of January, on forms provided by  
32 the commissioner, such officer's name and address and the registration  
33 number on the number plate or plates of the vehicle on which the  
34 authorized red light is or white head lamps and amber light are to be  
35 used. A vehicle being operated by a member of a volunteer fire  
36 department or company or a volunteer emergency medical technician  
37 may use flashing white head lamps, provided such member or  
38 emergency medical technician is on the way to the scene of a fire or  
39 medical emergency and has received written authorization from the  
40 chief law enforcement officer of the municipality to use such head  
41 lamps. Such head lamps shall only be used within the municipality  
42 granting such authorization or from a personal residence or place of  
43 employment, if located in an adjoining municipality. Such  
44 authorization may be revoked for use of such head lamps in violation  
45 of this subdivision.

46 (4) Flashing or revolving white lights may not be displayed upon a  
47 motor vehicle except (A) on fire emergency apparatus, (B) on motor  
48 vehicles of paid and volunteer fire chiefs and their first and second  
49 deputies or their first and second assistants should there be no

50 deputies, (C) as a means of indicating a right or left turn, (D) in  
51 conjunction with flashing red lights on an ambulance responding to an  
52 emergency call, or (E) on the top rear of any school bus. For the  
53 purpose of this subsection, the term "handicapped students" means  
54 mentally retarded, hard of hearing, deaf, speech-impaired, visually  
55 handicapped, emotionally disturbed, orthopedically impaired or other  
56 health-impaired students, or students with specific learning  
57 disabilities, who by reason thereof, require special education and  
58 related services; and the term "flashing white lights" shall not include  
59 the simultaneous flashing of head lamps.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

**Statement of Purpose:**

To provide that a flashing red, white or amber light may be used by licensed or certified ambulance service to transport personnel to emergencies.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*