



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Raised Bill No. 7026

LCO No. 3584

03584_____TRA

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING TOWING AND TRANSPORTING VEHICLES.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 14-66 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2007*):

4 (b) (1) The commissioner, by himself or an inspector authorized by
5 such commissioner, shall examine each wrecker, its number,
6 equipment and identification, and ascertain the mechanical condition
7 of such wrecker and ascertain whether or not it is properly equipped
8 to do the work intended. Such wrecker shall be deemed properly
9 equipped if it has installed thereon two flashing yellow lights so
10 mounted on the vehicle as to show in all directions at all times and
11 which shall indicate the full width of said vehicle. Such lights shall be
12 mounted not less than eight feet above the road surface and as near the
13 back of the cab of such vehicle as practicable. Such lights shall be in
14 operation whenever a disabled vehicle is being towed by such wrecker
15 and when such wrecker is at the scene of an accident or location of a
16 disabled motor vehicle. In addition thereto each wrecker shall be
17 equipped with a spot light so mounted that the beam of light can be

18 shown in all directions. The hoisting equipment of each wrecker shall
19 be of sufficient capacity to perform the service intended and shall be
20 securely mounted to the frame of such vehicle. A fire extinguisher
21 shall be carried at all times on each wrecker which shall be in proper
22 working condition, mounted in a permanent bracket on each wrecker
23 and have a minimum rating of eight bc. A set of three flares in
24 operating condition shall be carried at all times on each wrecker and
25 shall be used between the periods of one-half hour after sunset and
26 one-half hour before sunrise when the wrecker is parked on a highway
27 while making emergency repairs or preparing to pick up a disabled
28 vehicle to remove it from a highway or adjoining property. No
29 registrant or operator of any wrecker shall offer to give any gratuities
30 or inducements of any kind to any police officer or other person in
31 order to obtain towing business or recommendations for towing or
32 storage of, or estimating repairs to, disabled vehicles. No licensee shall
33 require the owner to sign a contract for the repair of his damaged
34 vehicle as part of the towing consideration or to sign an order for the
35 repair of, or authorization for estimate until the tow job has been
36 completed. [No] Unless specifically exempted by statute, no licensee
37 shall tow a vehicle in such a negligent manner as to cause further
38 damage to the vehicle being towed. (2) A licensee that recovers or tows
39 a vehicle as a result of being directed to do so by a law enforcement
40 officer or agency or a department of a municipal government or its
41 officers or employees shall not be held liable for any injury to, loss of
42 or damage to any real or personal property that occurs while removing
43 or towing a vehicle on a limited access highway in a designated
44 incident management program that uses fast lane clearance techniques
45 as recommended by the Departments of Transportation, Motor
46 Vehicles, Public Safety and Consumer Protection.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | October 1, 2007 | 14-66(b) |

Statement of Purpose:

To prevent a licensee that recovers or tows a vehicle as directed by law enforcement or municipal government from being liable for any damage that occurs while removing or towing the vehicle, provided that the removal or towing occurs on a limited access highway in a designated incident management program that uses fast lane clearance techniques.

[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.]