

House Bill 457 (AM)

By: Representatives Buck of the 112<sup>th</sup>, Bridges of the 7<sup>th</sup>, Hill of the 81<sup>st</sup>, Parham of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Boggs of the 145<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 uniform rules of the road, so as to require motor vehicle operators to take certain precautions  
3 when passing stationary authorized emergency, towing, recovery, and highway maintenance  
4 vehicles; to provide for a penalty; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to uniform rules  
8 of the road, is amended by inserting a new Code section to be designated Code Section  
9 40-6-16 to read as follows:

10 "40-6-16.

11 (a) The operator of a motor vehicle approaching a stationary authorized emergency vehicle  
12 that is displaying flashing yellow, amber, white, red, or blue lights shall approach the  
13 authorized emergency vehicle with due caution and shall, absent any other direction by a  
14 peace officer, proceed as follows:

15 (1) Make a lane change into a lane not adjacent to the authorized emergency vehicle if  
16 possible in the existing safety and traffic conditions; or

17 (2) If a lane change under paragraph (1) of this subsection would be impossible,  
18 prohibited by law, or unsafe, reduce the speed of the motor vehicle to a reasonable and  
19 proper speed for the existing road and traffic conditions, which speed shall be less than  
20 the posted speed limit, and be prepared to stop.

21 (b) The operator of a motor vehicle approaching a stationary towing or recovery vehicle  
22 or a stationary highway maintenance vehicle that is displaying flashing yellow, amber, or  
23 red lights shall approach the vehicle with due caution and shall, absent any other direction  
24 by a peace officer, proceed as follows:

25 (1) Make a lane change into a lane not adjacent to the towing, recovery, or highway  
26 maintenance vehicle if possible in the existing safety and traffic conditions; or

1 (2) If a lane change under paragraph (1) of this subsection would be impossible,  
2 prohibited by law, or unsafe, reduce the speed of the motor vehicle to a reasonable and  
3 proper speed for the existing road and traffic conditions, which speed shall be less than  
4 the posted speed limit, and be prepared to stop.

5 (c) Violation of subsection (a) or (b) of this Code section shall be punished by a fine of  
6 \$500.00."

7 **SECTION 2.**

8 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.