

House Bill 457 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

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

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

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

"40-6-16.

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.