SLS 25RS-347

ORIGINAL

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 155

BY SENATOR STINE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

MOTOR VEHICLES. Provides for emergency vehicle equipment for licensed surgeons. (8/1/25)

| 1 | AN ACT |
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| 2 | To amend and reenact R.S. 32:318(G), relative to emergency vehicle equipment for licensed |
| 3 | surgeons; to provide for emergency visual signal equipment for licensed surgeons; |
| 4 | to provide for procedures and requirements for emergency equipment; to provide for |
| 5 | use of emergency equipment; and to provide for related matters. |
| 6 | Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: |
| 7 | Section 1. R.S. 32:318(G) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: |
| 8 | §318. Audible and visual signals on certain vehicles |
| 9 | * * * |
| 10 | G.(1) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, privately |
| 11 | owned motor vehicles belonging to members of the emergency medical team as |
| 12 | designated by the commander of the United States Army Community Hospital at |
| 13 | Fort Polk may be equipped with a large flashing red light which shall have sufficient |
| 14 | intensity to be visible at five hundred feet in normal sunlight. |
| 15 | (2)(b) The commander shall submit the name and motor vehicle license |
| 16 | number of each member of the emergency medical team to the secretary of the |
| 17 | Department of Public Safety and the secretary of the Department of Transportation |

Page 1 of 3 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

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1 and Development. 2 (3)(c) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety shall issue, after 3 review and recommendation of the secretary of the Department of Transportation 4 and Development, to each team member a letter of authorization for the use of the 5 light whenever the member is en route to the hospital in an emergency as declared 6 by the hospital commander. (4)(d) The letter of authorization shall be located within the vehicle for which 7 8 it has been issued. The provisions of R.S. 32:24 shall extend to the driver of any 9 vehicle issued the letter of authorization under this Subsection. 10 (2)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, and 11 pursuant to R.S. 32:24, privately owned motor vehicles belonging to a general 12 trauma surgeon licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners 13 may be equipped with a large removable flashing red light which shall have 14 sufficient intensity to be visible at five hundred feet in normal sunlight. (b) The provisions of this Paragraph shall only apply to a surgeon 15 16 actively practicing medicine in this state and who is responding to a Level I trauma center as designated by the Louisiana Department of Health pursuant 17 18 to R.S. 40:2171 et seq. 19 (c) The Department of Public Safety shall, in accordance with the 20 Administrative Procedure Act, adopt rules and regulations for the efficient 21 implementation and enforcement of the provisions of this Paragraph, which shall include the surgeon's name and motor vehicle license number, 22 documentation from the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, and a 23 24 procedure to verify all documentation annually.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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<u>Present law</u> provides for privately owned motor vehicles belonging to members of the emergency medical team to be equipped with a large flashing red light which shall have sufficient intensity to be visible at five hundred feet in normal sunlight.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and provides for privately owned motor vehicles belonging to general trauma surgeons licensed by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and actively practicing medicine in this state at a Level I trauma center to be equipped with emergency visual signals when en route to a medical emergency. <u>Proposed law</u> further provides for the office of public safety to develop a procedure and approval protocol for the use of the emergency equipment.

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 32:318(G))