

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 30—COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY)

PREFILED DECEMBER 14, 2010

Referred to Committee on Transportation

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to the authorization of certain emergency vehicles. (BDR 43-457)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles; revising provisions relating to the authorization of certain emergency vehicles; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Under existing law, the Nevada Highway Patrol Division is the only division of
2 the Department of Public Safety expressly authorized to obtain permits from the
3 Department of Motor Vehicles to own and operate authorized emergency vehicles.
4 (NRS 484A.480, 484A.490) This bill expressly authorizes the issuance of such
5 permits for vehicles owned and operated by the Capitol Police Division, the
6 Investigation Division, the State Fire Marshal Division, the Training Division and
7 the Office of the Director of the Department of Public Safety.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 484A.480 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 484A.480 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS
4 484A.490, authorized emergency vehicles are vehicles publicly
5 owned and operated in the performance of the duty of:

- 6 (a) A police or fire department.
- 7 (b) A sheriff’s office.
- 8 (c) ~~[The Nevada Highway Patrol.]~~ *The Capitol Police Division,*
9 *the Investigation Division, the Nevada Highway Patrol Division,*



1 *the State Fire Marshal Division, the Training Division and the*
2 *Office of the Director of the Department of Public Safety.*

3 (d) The Division of Forestry of the State Department of
4 Conservation and Natural Resources in responding to a fire.

5 (e) A public ambulance agency.

6 (f) A public lifeguard or lifesaving agency.

7 2. A vehicle publicly maintained in whole or in part by the
8 State, or by a city or county, and privately owned and operated by a
9 regularly salaried member of a police department, sheriff's office or
10 traffic law enforcement department, is an authorized emergency
11 vehicle if:

12 (a) The vehicle has a permit, pursuant to NRS 484A.490, from
13 the Department;

14 (b) The person operates the vehicle in responding to emergency
15 calls or fire alarms, or at the request of the Nevada Highway Patrol
16 or in the pursuit of actual or suspected violators of the law; and

17 (c) The State, county or city does not furnish a publicly owned
18 vehicle for the purposes stated in paragraph (b).

19 3. Every authorized emergency vehicle must be equipped with
20 at least one flashing red warning lamp visible from the front and a
21 siren for use as provided in chapters 484A to 484E, inclusive, of
22 NRS, which lamp and siren must be in compliance with standards
23 approved by the Department. In addition, an authorized emergency
24 vehicle may display revolving, flashing or steady red or blue
25 warning lights to the front, sides or rear of the vehicle.

26 4. An authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a
27 system or device that causes the upper-beam headlamps of the
28 vehicle to continue to flash alternately while the system or device is
29 activated. The driver of a vehicle that is so equipped may use the
30 system or device when responding to an emergency call or fire
31 alarm, while escorting a funeral procession, or when in pursuit of an
32 actual or suspected violator of the law. As used in this subsection,
33 "upper-beam headlamp" means a headlamp or that part of a
34 headlamp which projects a distribution of light or composite beam
35 meeting the requirements of subsection 1 of NRS 484D.210.

36 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a person shall
37 not operate a motor vehicle with any system or device that causes
38 the headlamps of the vehicle to continue to flash alternately or
39 simultaneously while the system or device is activated. This
40 subsection does not prohibit the operation of a motorcycle equipped
41 with any system or device that modulates the intensity of light
42 produced by the headlamp of the motorcycle, if the system or device
43 is used only during daylight hours and conforms to the requirements
44 of 49 C.F.R. § 571.108.



1 6. A person shall not operate a vehicle with any lamp or device
2 displaying a red light visible from directly in front of the center of
3 the vehicle except an authorized emergency vehicle, a school bus or
4 an official vehicle of a regulatory agency.

5 7. A person shall not operate a vehicle with any lamp or device
6 displaying a blue light, except a motorcycle pursuant to NRS
7 486.261 or an authorized emergency vehicle.

8 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

