

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2251

By: Paulk of the House

and

Herbert of the Senate

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 1991, Section 12-218, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 13, O.S.L. 1993 (47 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 12-218), which relates to audible and visual signals on vehicles; modifying type of lights that may be used on emergency vehicles; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 12-218, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 13, O.S.L. 1993 (47 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 12-218), is amended to read as follows:

Section 12-218. A. Every authorized emergency vehicle shall, in addition to any other equipment and distinctive markings required by this act, be equipped with a siren, exhaust whistle or bell capable of giving an audible signal.

B. Every school bus used for transportation of school children and every authorized emergency vehicle shall, in addition to any other equipment and distinctive markings required by this act, be equipped with signal lamps mounted as high and as widely spaced laterally as practicable, which shall be capable of displaying to the front two alternately flashing red, or for authorized emergency vehicles, flashing red or blue lights located at the same level, and these lights shall have sufficient intensity to be visible at five hundred (500) feet in normal sunlight or, as an alternative, authorized emergency vehicles may use one red or blue signal lamp so located at or near the top of the vehicle which when lighted is visible for a distance of five hundred (500) feet in normal sunlight both to the front and to the rear of the vehicle.

C. A law enforcement vehicle when used as an authorized emergency vehicle may but need not be equipped with alternately-flashing red lights specified herein.

D. The use of the signal equipment described herein shall impose upon drivers of other vehicles the obligation to yield right-of-way and stop as prescribed in Sections 11-405 and 11-705 of this act.

E. It shall be unlawful for any person to use audible signal equipment from a motor vehicle for the purpose of causing any other motor vehicle operator to yield right-of-way and stop. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to vehicles of any fire department, fire patrol, law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, or other authorized emergency vehicles.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

Passed the House of Representatives the 24th day of February,
1998.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the 1st day of April, 1998.

President of the Senate