

1 S.40

2 Introduced by Senator Perchlik

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Motor vehicles; colored lights; colored signal lamps; fire department
6 vehicles; EMS vehicles

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize the
8 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles to issue a permit for the use of one blue
9 signal lamp on a fire department or EMS vehicle, provided the signal lamp is
10 mounted so as to be visible primarily from the rear of the vehicle and only used
11 when the vehicle is parked.

12 An act relating to the use of colored signal lamps on fire department and
13 emergency medical service vehicles

14 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

15 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 1252 is amended to read:

16 § 1252. ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR SIRENS OR COLORED LAMPS,
17 OR BOTH; USE OF AMBER LAMPS

18 (a) When satisfied as to the condition and use of the vehicle, the
19 Commissioner shall issue and may revoke, for cause, permits for sirens ~~or~~ and
20 colored signal lamps in the following manner:

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(2)(A) Sirens and red or red and white signal lamps may be authorized for all ambulances, ~~fire apparatus~~ and other emergency medical service (EMS) vehicles, vehicles owned or leased by a fire department, vehicles used solely in rescue operations, or vehicles owned or leased by, or provided to, volunteer firefighters and voluntary rescue squad members, including a vehicle owned by a volunteer's employer when the volunteer has the written authorization of the employer to use the vehicle for emergency fire or rescue activities.

(B) One blue signal lamp may be authorized for all EMS vehicles or vehicles owned or leased by a fire department, provided that the Commissioner shall require the lamp be mounted so as to be visible primarily from the rear of the vehicle and only used when the vehicle is parked.

~~(3) No vehicle may be authorized a permit for more than one of the combinations described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.~~

[Repealed.]

* * *

Sec. 2. 23 V.S.A. § 1255 is amended to read:

§ 1255. EXCEPTIONS

(a) The provisions of section 1251 of this title shall not apply to directional signal lamps of a type approved by the Commissioner of ~~Motor Vehicles~~.

1 (b) All persons with motor vehicles equipped as provided in subdivisions
2 1252(a)(1) and (2) of this title shall use the sirens or colored signal lamps, or
3 both, only in the direct performance of their official duties. When any person
4 other than a law enforcement officer is operating a motor vehicle equipped as
5 provided in subdivision 1252(a)(1) of this title, the colored signal ~~lamp~~ lamps
6 shall be either removed, covered, or hooded. When any person, other than an
7 authorized ~~ambulance~~ emergency medical service vehicle operator, firefighter,
8 or authorized operator of vehicles used in rescue ~~operation~~ operations is
9 operating a motor vehicle equipped as provided in subdivision 1252(a)(2) of
10 this title, the colored signal lamps shall be either removed, covered, or hooded
11 unless the operator holds a senior operator license.

12 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

13 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.