



## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

**HB5632**

by Rep. Christian L. Mitchell

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/11-1421

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-1421

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that an ambulance or rescue vehicle shall operate a siren and lamp or lamps only when it is reasonably necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach thereof while responding to an emergency call or transporting a patient who presents a combination of circumstances resulting in a need for immediate medical intervention that is beyond the capabilities of the emergency responders using the available supplies and equipment.

LRB100 20888 LNS 36393 b

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing  
5 Section 11-1421 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/11-1421) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-1421)

7 Sec. 11-1421. Conditions for operating ambulances and  
8 rescue vehicles.

9 (a) No person shall operate an ambulance or rescue vehicle  
10 in a manner not conforming to the motor vehicle laws and  
11 regulations of this State or of any political subdivision of  
12 this State as such laws and regulations apply to motor vehicles  
13 in general, unless in compliance with the following conditions:

14 1. The person operating the ambulance shall be either  
15 responding to a bona fide emergency call or specifically  
16 directed by a licensed physician to disregard traffic laws  
17 in operating the ambulance during and for the purpose of  
18 the specific trip or journey that is involved;

19 2. The ambulance or rescue vehicle shall be equipped  
20 with a siren producing an audible signal of an intensity of  
21 100 decibels at a distance of 50 feet from the siren, and  
22 with a lamp or lamps emitting an oscillating, rotating or  
23 flashing red beam directed in part toward the front of the

1 vehicle, and these lamps shall have sufficient intensity to  
2 be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight, and in addition  
3 to other lighting requirements, excluding those vehicles  
4 operated in counties with a population in excess of  
5 2,000,000, may also operate with a lamp or lamps emitting  
6 an oscillating, rotating, or flashing green light;

7 3. The aforesaid siren and lamp or lamps shall be in  
8 operation only ~~at all times~~ when it is reasonably necessary  
9 to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach  
10 thereof while responding to an emergency call or  
11 transporting a patient who presents a combination of  
12 circumstances resulting in a need for immediate medical  
13 intervention that is beyond the capabilities of the  
14 emergency responders using the available supplies and  
15 equipment ~~during such trip or journey~~;

16 4. Whenever the ambulance or rescue vehicle is operated  
17 at a speed in excess of 40 miles per hour, the ambulance or  
18 rescue vehicle shall be operated in complete conformance  
19 with every other motor vehicle law and regulation of this  
20 State and of the political subdivision in which the  
21 ambulance or rescue vehicle is operated, relating to the  
22 operation of motor vehicles, as such provision applies to  
23 motor vehicles in general, except laws and regulations  
24 pertaining to compliance with official traffic-control  
25 devices or to vehicular operation upon the right half of  
26 the roadway; and

1           5. The ambulance shall display registration plates  
2           identifying the vehicle as an ambulance.

3           (b) The foregoing provisions do not relieve the driver of  
4           an ambulance or rescue vehicle from the duty of driving with  
5           due regard for the safety of all persons, nor do such  
6           provisions protect the driver from the consequences resulting  
7           from the reckless disregard for the safety of others.

8           (Source: P.A. 88-517.)