

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
5 changing Sections 12-215 and 12-601.1 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/12-215) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 12-215)

7 Sec. 12-215. Oscillating, rotating or flashing lights on
8 motor vehicles. Except as otherwise provided in this Code:

9 (a) The use of red or white oscillating, rotating or
10 flashing lights, whether lighted or unlighted, is prohibited
11 except on:

12 1. Law enforcement vehicles of State, Federal or local
13 authorities;

14 2. A vehicle operated by a police officer or county
15 coroner and designated or authorized by local authorities,
16 in writing, as a law enforcement vehicle; however, such
17 designation or authorization must be carried in the
18 vehicle;

19 2.1. A vehicle operated by a fire chief, deputy fire
20 chief, or assistant fire chief who has completed an
21 emergency vehicle operation training course approved by
22 the Office of the State Fire Marshal and designated or
23 authorized by local authorities, fire departments, or fire

1 protection districts, in writing, as a fire department,
2 fire protection district, or township fire department
3 vehicle; however, the designation or authorization must be
4 carried in the vehicle, and the lights may be visible or
5 activated only when responding to a bona fide emergency;

6 3. Vehicles of local fire departments and State or
7 federal firefighting vehicles;

8 4. Vehicles which are designed and used exclusively as
9 ambulances or rescue vehicles; furthermore, such lights
10 shall not be lighted except when responding to an
11 emergency call for and while actually conveying the sick
12 or injured;

13 4.5. Vehicles which are occasionally used as rescue
14 vehicles that have been authorized for use as rescue
15 vehicles by a volunteer EMS provider, provided that the
16 operator of the vehicle has successfully completed an
17 emergency vehicle operation training course recognized by
18 the Department of Public Health; furthermore, the lights
19 shall not be lighted except when responding to an
20 emergency call for the sick or injured;

21 5. Tow trucks licensed in a state that requires such
22 lights; furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted on
23 any such tow truck while the tow truck is operating in the
24 State of Illinois;

25 6. Vehicles of the Illinois Emergency Management
26 Agency, vehicles of the Office of the Illinois State Fire

1 Marshal, vehicles of the Illinois Department of Public
2 Health, vehicles of the Illinois Department of
3 Corrections, and vehicles of the Illinois Department of
4 Juvenile Justice;

5 7. Vehicles operated by a local or county emergency
6 management services agency as defined in the Illinois
7 Emergency Management Agency Act;

8 8. School buses operating alternately flashing head
9 lamps as permitted under Section 12-805 of this Code;

10 9. Vehicles that are equipped and used exclusively as
11 organ transplant vehicles when used in combination with
12 blue oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights;
13 furthermore, these lights shall be lighted only when the
14 transportation is declared an emergency by a member of the
15 transplant team or a representative of the organ
16 procurement organization;

17 10. Vehicles of the Illinois Department of Natural
18 Resources that are used for mine rescue and explosives
19 emergency response;

20 11. Vehicles of the Illinois Department of
21 Transportation identified as Emergency Traffic Patrol; the
22 lights shall not be lighted except when responding to an
23 emergency call or when parked or stationary while engaged
24 in motor vehicle assistance or at the scene of the
25 emergency; and

26 12. Vehicles of the Illinois State Toll Highway

1 Authority with a gross vehicle weight rating of 9,000
2 pounds or more and those identified as Highway Emergency
3 Lane Patrol; the lights shall not be lighted except when
4 responding to an emergency call or when parked or
5 stationary while engaged in motor vehicle assistance or at
6 the scene of the emergency.

7 (b) The use of amber oscillating, rotating or flashing
8 lights, whether lighted or unlighted, is prohibited except on:

9 1. Second division vehicles designed and used for
10 towing or hoisting vehicles; furthermore, such lights
11 shall not be lighted except as required in this paragraph
12 1; such lights shall be lighted when such vehicles are
13 actually being used at the scene of an accident or
14 disablement; if the towing vehicle is equipped with a flat
15 bed that supports all wheels of the vehicle being
16 transported, the lights shall not be lighted while the
17 vehicle is engaged in towing on a highway; if the towing
18 vehicle is not equipped with a flat bed that supports all
19 wheels of a vehicle being transported, the lights shall be
20 lighted while the towing vehicle is engaged in towing on a
21 highway during all times when the use of headlights is
22 required under Section 12-201 of this Code; in addition,
23 these vehicles may use white oscillating, rotating, or
24 flashing lights in combination with amber oscillating,
25 rotating, or flashing lights as provided in this
26 paragraph;

1 2. Motor vehicles or equipment of the State of
2 Illinois, the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority, local
3 authorities and contractors; furthermore, such lights
4 shall not be lighted except while such vehicles are
5 engaged in maintenance or construction operations within
6 the limits of construction projects;

7 3. Vehicles or equipment used by engineering or survey
8 crews; furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted
9 except while such vehicles are actually engaged in work on
10 a highway;

11 4. Vehicles of public utilities, municipalities, or
12 other construction, maintenance or automotive service
13 vehicles except that such lights shall be lighted only as
14 a means for indicating the presence of a vehicular traffic
15 hazard requiring unusual care in approaching, overtaking
16 or passing while such vehicles are engaged in maintenance,
17 service or construction on a highway;

18 5. Oversized vehicle or load; however, such lights
19 shall only be lighted when moving under permit issued by
20 the Department under Section 15-301 of this Code;

21 6. The front and rear of motorized equipment owned and
22 operated by the State of Illinois or any political
23 subdivision thereof, which is designed and used for
24 removal of snow and ice from highways;

25 6.1. The front and rear of motorized equipment or
26 vehicles that (i) are not owned by the State of Illinois or

1 any political subdivision of the State, (ii) are designed
2 and used for removal of snow and ice from highways and
3 parking lots, and (iii) are equipped with a snow plow that
4 is 12 feet in width; these lights may not be lighted except
5 when the motorized equipment or vehicle is actually being
6 used for those purposes on behalf of a unit of government;

7 7. Fleet safety vehicles registered in another state,
8 furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except as
9 provided for in Section 12-212 of this Code;

10 8. Such other vehicles as may be authorized by local
11 authorities;

12 9. Law enforcement vehicles of State or local
13 authorities when used in combination with red oscillating,
14 rotating or flashing lights;

15 9.5. Propane delivery trucks;

16 10. Vehicles used for collecting or delivering mail
17 for the United States Postal Service provided that such
18 lights shall not be lighted except when such vehicles are
19 actually being used for such purposes;

20 10.5. Vehicles of the Office of the Illinois State
21 Fire Marshal, provided that such lights shall not be
22 lighted except for when such vehicles are engaged in work
23 for the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal;

24 11. Any vehicle displaying a slow-moving vehicle
25 emblem as provided in Section 12-205.1;

26 12. All trucks equipped with self-compactors or

1 roll-off hoists and roll-on containers for garbage,
2 recycling, or refuse hauling. Such lights shall not be
3 lighted except when such vehicles are actually being used
4 for such purposes;

5 13. Vehicles used by a security company, alarm
6 responder, control agency, or the Illinois Department of
7 Corrections;

8 14. Security vehicles of the Department of Human
9 Services; however, the lights shall not be lighted except
10 when being used for security related purposes under the
11 direction of the superintendent of the facility where the
12 vehicle is located; and

13 15. Vehicles of union representatives, except that the
14 lights shall be lighted only while the vehicle is within
15 the limits of a construction project.

16 (c) The use of blue oscillating, rotating or flashing
17 lights, whether lighted or unlighted, is prohibited except on:

18 1. Rescue squad vehicles not owned by a fire
19 department or fire protection district and vehicles owned
20 or operated by a:

21 voluntary firefighter;

22 paid firefighter;

23 part-paid firefighter;

24 call firefighter;

25 member of the board of trustees of a fire
26 protection district;

1 paid or unpaid member of a rescue squad;
2 paid or unpaid member of a voluntary ambulance
3 unit; or
4 paid or unpaid members of a local or county
5 emergency management services agency as defined in the
6 Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, designated
7 or authorized by local authorities, in writing, and
8 carrying that designation or authorization in the
9 vehicle.

10 However, such lights are not to be lighted except when
11 responding to a bona fide emergency or when parked or
12 stationary at the scene of a fire, rescue call, ambulance
13 call, or motor vehicle accident.

14 Any person using these lights in accordance with this
15 subdivision (c)1 must carry on his or her person an
16 identification card or letter identifying the bona fide
17 member of a fire department, fire protection district,
18 rescue squad, ambulance unit, or emergency management
19 services agency that owns or operates that vehicle. The
20 card or letter must include:

21 (A) the name of the fire department, fire
22 protection district, rescue squad, ambulance unit, or
23 emergency management services agency;

24 (B) the member's position within the fire
25 department, fire protection district, rescue squad,
26 ambulance unit, or emergency management services

1 agency;

2 (C) the member's term of service; and

3 (D) the name of a person within the fire
4 department, fire protection district, rescue squad,
5 ambulance unit, or emergency management services
6 agency to contact to verify the information provided.

7 2. Police department vehicles in cities having a
8 population of 500,000 or more inhabitants.

9 3. Law enforcement vehicles of State or local
10 authorities when used in combination with red oscillating,
11 rotating or flashing lights.

12 4. Vehicles of local fire departments and State or
13 federal firefighting vehicles when used in combination
14 with red oscillating, rotating or flashing lights.

15 5. Vehicles which are designed and used exclusively as
16 ambulances or rescue vehicles when used in combination
17 with red oscillating, rotating or flashing lights;
18 furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except when
19 responding to an emergency call.

20 6. Vehicles that are equipped and used exclusively as
21 organ transport vehicles when used in combination with red
22 oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights; furthermore,
23 these lights shall only be lighted when the transportation
24 is declared an emergency by a member of the transplant
25 team or a representative of the organ procurement
26 organization.

1 7. Vehicles of the Illinois Emergency Management
2 Agency, vehicles of the Office of the Illinois State Fire
3 Marshal, vehicles of the Illinois Department of Public
4 Health, vehicles of the Illinois Department of
5 Corrections, and vehicles of the Illinois Department of
6 Juvenile Justice, when used in combination with red
7 oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights.

8 8. Vehicles operated by a local or county emergency
9 management services agency as defined in the Illinois
10 Emergency Management Agency Act, when used in combination
11 with red oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights.

12 9. Vehicles of the Illinois Department of Natural
13 Resources that are used for mine rescue and explosives
14 emergency response, when used in combination with red
15 oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights.

16 (c-1) In addition to the blue oscillating, rotating, or
17 flashing lights permitted under subsection (c), and
18 notwithstanding subsection (a), a vehicle operated by a
19 voluntary firefighter, a voluntary member of a rescue squad,
20 or a member of a voluntary ambulance unit may be equipped with
21 flashing white headlights and blue grill lights, which may be
22 used only in responding to an emergency call or when parked or
23 stationary at the scene of a fire, rescue call, ambulance
24 call, or motor vehicle accident.

25 (c-2) In addition to the blue oscillating, rotating, or
26 flashing lights permitted under subsection (c), and

1 notwithstanding subsection (a), a vehicle operated by a paid
2 or unpaid member of a local or county emergency management
3 services agency as defined in the Illinois Emergency
4 Management Agency Act, may be equipped with white oscillating,
5 rotating, or flashing lights to be used in combination with
6 blue oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights, if
7 authorization by local authorities is in writing and carried
8 in the vehicle.

9 (d) The use of a combination of amber and white
10 oscillating, rotating or flashing lights, whether lighted or
11 unlighted, is prohibited except on second division vehicles
12 designed and used for towing or hoisting vehicles or motor
13 vehicles or equipment of the State of Illinois, local
14 authorities, contractors, and union representatives;
15 furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted on second
16 division vehicles designed and used for towing or hoisting
17 vehicles or vehicles of the State of Illinois, local
18 authorities, and contractors except while such vehicles are
19 engaged in a tow operation, highway maintenance, or
20 construction operations within the limits of highway
21 construction projects, and shall not be lighted on the
22 vehicles of union representatives except when those vehicles
23 are within the limits of a construction project.

24 (e) All oscillating, rotating or flashing lights referred
25 to in this Section shall be of sufficient intensity, when
26 illuminated, to be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight.

1 (f) Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a manufacturer
2 of oscillating, rotating or flashing lights or his
3 representative or authorized vendor from temporarily mounting
4 such lights on a vehicle for demonstration purposes only. If
5 the lights are not covered while the vehicle is operated upon a
6 highway, the vehicle shall display signage indicating that the
7 vehicle is out of service or not an emergency vehicle. The
8 signage shall be displayed on all sides of the vehicle in
9 letters at least 2 inches tall and one-half inch wide. A
10 vehicle authorized to have oscillating, rotating, or flashing
11 lights mounted for demonstration purposes may not activate the
12 lights while the vehicle is operated upon a highway.

13 (g) Any person violating the provisions of subsections
14 (a), (b), (c) or (d) of this Section who without lawful
15 authority stops or detains or attempts to stop or detain
16 another person shall be guilty of a Class 2 felony.

17 (h) Except as provided in subsection (g) above, any person
18 violating the provisions of subsections (a) or (c) of this
19 Section shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

20 (Source: P.A. 100-62, eff. 8-11-17; 101-56, eff. 1-1-20.)

21 (625 ILCS 5/12-601.1)

22 Sec. 12-601.1. Traffic control signal preemption devices.

23 (a) As used in this Section, "traffic control signal
24 preemption device" means any device, either mechanical or
25 electrical, that emits a pulse of light or other signal that,

1 when received by a detector attached to a traffic control
2 signal, changes that traffic control signal to a green light
3 or, if the traffic control signal is already green, extends
4 the duration of the green light.

5 (b) Except as provided in subsection (d), a traffic
6 control signal preemption device may not be installed on a
7 motor vehicle, may not be transported in the passenger
8 compartment of a motor vehicle, and may not be operated by the
9 driver or passenger of a motor vehicle.

10 Violation of this subsection (b) is a Class A misdemeanor,
11 punishable by a fine of \$1,000 in addition to any other penalty
12 that may be imposed.

13 (c) A retailer or manufacturer may not sell a traffic
14 control signal preemption device to any person or entity for
15 any intended use other than operation as permitted under
16 subsection (d).

17 Violation of this subsection (c) is a Class A misdemeanor,
18 punishable by a fine of \$5,000 for each sale of each device, in
19 addition to any other penalty that may be imposed.

20 (d) Installation of a traffic control signal preemption
21 device is permitted on the following vehicles, and operation
22 of the device is permitted as follows:

23 (1) Police department vehicles, when responding to a
24 bona fide emergency, when used in combination with red or
25 blue oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights.

26 (2) Law enforcement vehicles of State or local

1 authorities, when responding to a bona fide emergency,
2 when used in combination with red oscillating, rotating,
3 or flashing lights.

4 (3) Vehicles of local fire departments, fire
5 protection districts, and State or federal firefighting
6 vehicles, when responding to a bona fide emergency, when
7 used in combination with red oscillating, rotating, or
8 flashing lights.

9 (4) Vehicles that are designed and used exclusively as
10 ambulances or rescue vehicles, when responding to a bona
11 fide emergency, when used in combination with red
12 oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights.

13 (5) Vehicles that are equipped and used exclusively as
14 organ transport vehicles, when the transportation is
15 declared an emergency by a member of the transplant team
16 or a representative of the organ procurement organization,
17 when used in combination with red oscillating, rotating,
18 or flashing lights.

19 (6) Vehicles of the Illinois Emergency Management
20 Agency and vehicles of the Department of Nuclear Safety,
21 when responding to a bona fide emergency, when used in
22 combination with red oscillating, rotating, or flashing
23 lights.

24 (7) Commuter buses owned by any political subdivision
25 of this State, operated either by the political
26 subdivision or its lessee or agent, and offering

1 short-haul for-hire regularly scheduled passenger
2 transportation service, over regular routes with fixed
3 schedules, within metropolitan and suburban areas, when
4 used to extend the duration of an already green light to
5 meet schedules.

6 (8) Vehicles used for snow removal owned by any
7 political subdivision of this State, operated either by
8 the political subdivision or its lessee or agent, when
9 used during a snow emergency in combination with yellow or
10 amber oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights, when used
11 to extend the duration of an already green light.

12 (e) This Section does not prohibit use by motorcycles of
13 electronic or magnetic safety devices designed to allow
14 traffic control signal systems to recognize or detect
15 motorcycles.

16 (Source: P.A. 93-80, eff. 7-2-03.)