

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2023 and 2024 HB5370

Introduced 2/9/2024, by Rep. Jay Hoffman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/11-907 from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-907 625 ILCS 5/11-908 from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-908

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Requires that upon approaching an emergency scene, a stationary authorized emergency vehicle, or a construction or maintenance area or zone, a person who drives a vehicle shall, proceeding with due caution, yield the right-of-way by making a lane change, if possible with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, if on a highway having at least 4 lanes with not less than 2 lanes proceeding in the same direction as the approaching vehicle reduce the speed of the vehicle to a speed that is reasonable and proper with regard to traffic conditions and the use of the highway to avoid a collision and leaving a safe distance until safely past the stationary authorized emergency vehicle, or construction or maintenance area or zone. Provides that if changing lanes would be impossible or unsafe, proceeding with due caution, reduce the speed of the vehicle to a speed that is reasonable and proper with regard to traffic conditions and the use of the highway to avoid a collision, or until safely past the construction or maintenance area or zone.

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1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

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

- Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing Sections 11-907 and 11-908 as follows:
- 6 (625 ILCS 5/11-907) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-907)
- Sec. 11-907. Operation of vehicles and streetcars on approach of authorized emergency vehicles.
 - (a) Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of audible and visual signals meeting the requirements of this Code or a police vehicle properly and lawfully making use of an audible or visual signal:
 - (1) the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right-hand edge or curb of the highway clear of any intersection and shall, if necessary to permit the safe passage of the emergency vehicle, stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, unless otherwise directed by a police officer; and
 - (2) the operator of every streetcar shall immediately stop such car clear of any intersection and keep it in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has

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- 1 passed, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.
 - (b) This Section shall not operate to relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.
 - (c) Upon approaching a stationary authorized emergency vehicle or emergency scene, when the stationary authorized emergency vehicle is giving a signal by displaying alternately flashing red, red and white, blue, or red and blue lights or amber or yellow warning lights, a person who drives an approaching vehicle shall:
 - (1)proceeding with due caution, vield the right-of-way by making a lane change into a lane not adjacent to that of the authorized emergency vehicle, if possible with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, if on a highway having at least 4 lanes with not less than lanes proceeding in the same direction the approaching vehicle and reduce the speed of the vehicle to a speed that is reasonable and proper with regard to traffic conditions and the use of the highway to avoid a collision and leaving a safe distance until safely past the stationary emergency vehicle; or
 - (2) if changing lanes would be impossible or unsafe, proceeding with due caution, reduce the speed of the vehicle to a speed that is reasonable and proper with regard to traffic conditions and the use of the highway to avoid a collision, maintaining a safe speed for road

conditions and leaving a safe distance until safely past the stationary emergency vehicles.

The visual signal specified under this subsection (c) given by a stationary an authorized emergency vehicle is an indication to drivers of approaching vehicles that a hazardous condition is present when circumstances are not immediately clear. Drivers of vehicles approaching a stationary authorized emergency vehicle in any lane shall heed the warning of the signal, reduce the speed of the vehicle, proceed with due caution, maintain a safe speed for road conditions, be prepared to stop, and leave a safe distance until safely passed the stationary emergency vehicle.

As used in this subsection (c), "authorized emergency vehicle" includes any vehicle authorized by law to be equipped with oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights under Section 12-215 of this Code, while the owner or operator of the vehicle is engaged in his or her official duties. As used in this subsection (c), "emergency scene" means a location where a stationary authorized emergency vehicle as defined by herein is present and has activated its oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights.

(d) A person who violates subsection (c) of this Section commits a business offense punishable by a fine of not less than \$250 or more than \$10,000 for a first violation, and a fine of not less than \$750 or more than \$10,000 for a second or subsequent violation. It is a factor in aggravation if the

- person committed the offense while in violation of Section 11-501, 12-610.1, or 12-610.2 of this Code. Imposition of the penalties authorized by this subsection (d) for a violation of subsection (c) of this Section that results in the death of another person does not preclude imposition of appropriate additional civil or criminal penalties. A person who violates subsection (c) and the violation results in damage to another vehicle commits a Class A misdemeanor. A person who violates subsection (c) and the violation results in the injury or death of another person commits a Class 4 felony.
- (e) If a violation of subsection (c) of this Section results in damage to the property of another person, in addition to any other penalty imposed, the person's driving privileges shall be suspended for a fixed period of not less than 90 days and not more than one year.
 - (f) If a violation of subsection (c) of this Section results in injury to another person, in addition to any other penalty imposed, the person's driving privileges shall be suspended for a fixed period of not less than 180 days and not more than 2 years.
 - (g) If a violation of subsection (c) of this Section results in the death of another person, in addition to any other penalty imposed, the person's driving privileges shall be suspended for 2 years.
- (h) The Secretary of State shall, upon receiving a record of a judgment entered against a person under subsection (c) of

1 this Section:

- 2 (1) suspend the person's driving privileges for the mandatory period; or
 - (2) extend the period of an existing suspension by the appropriate mandatory period.
 - (i) The Scott's Law Fund shall be a special fund in the State treasury. Subject to appropriation by the General Assembly and approval by the Director, the Director of the State Police shall use all moneys in the Scott's Law Fund in the Department's discretion to fund the production of materials to educate drivers on approaching stationary authorized emergency vehicles, to hire off-duty Department of State Police for enforcement of this Section, and for other law enforcement purposes the Director deems necessary in these efforts.
 - (j) For violations of this Section issued by a county or municipal police officer, the assessment shall be deposited into the county's or municipality's Transportation Safety Highway Hire-back Fund. The county shall use the moneys in its Transportation Safety Highway Hire-back Fund to hire off-duty county police officers to monitor construction or maintenance zones in that county on highways other than interstate highways. The county, in its discretion, may also use a portion of the moneys in its Transportation Safety Highway Hire-back Fund to purchase equipment for county law enforcement and fund the production of materials to educate

- 1 drivers on construction zone safe driving habits and
- 2 approaching stationary authorized emergency vehicles.
- 3 (k) In addition to other penalties imposed by this
- 4 Section, the court may order a person convicted of a violation
- of subsection (c) to perform community service as determined
- 6 by the court.
- 7 (Source: P.A. 101-173, eff. 1-1-20; 102-336, eff. 1-1-22;
- 8 102-338, eff. 1-1-22; 102-813, eff. 5-13-22.)
- 9 (625 ILCS 5/11-908) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 11-908)
- 10 Sec. 11-908. Vehicle approaching or entering a highway
- 11 construction or maintenance area or zone.
- 12 (a) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way
- 13 to any authorized vehicle or pedestrian actually engaged in
- 14 work upon a highway within any highway construction or
- 15 maintenance area indicated by official traffic-control
- devices.
- 17 (a-1) Upon entering a construction or maintenance zone
- 18 when workers are present, a person who drives a vehicle shall:
- 19 (1) proceeding with due caution, yield the
- 20 right-of-way by making make a lane change into a lane not
- 21 adjacent to that of the workers present, if possible with
- 22 due regard to safety and traffic conditions, if on a
- highway having at least 4 lanes with not less than 2 lanes
- 24 proceeding in the same direction as the approaching
- vehicle, and reduce the speed of the vehicle to a speed

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- (2) proceeding with due caution, reduce the speed of the vehicle to a speed that is reasonable and proper with regard to traffic conditions and the use of the highway to avoid a collision until safely past the construction or maintenance zone, maintaining a safe speed for road conditions, if changing lanes would be impossible or unsafe.
- (a-2) A person who violates subsection (a-1) of this Section commits a business offense punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$25,000. It is a factor in aggravation if the person committed the offense while in violation of Section 11-501 of this Code.
- (a-3) If a violation of subsection (a-1) of this Section results in damage to the property of another person, in addition to any other penalty imposed, the person's driving privileges shall be suspended for a fixed period of not less than 90 days and not more than one year.
- (a-4) If a violation of subsection (a-1) of this Section results in injury to another person, in addition to any other penalty imposed, the person's driving privileges shall be suspended for a fixed period of not less than 180 days and not more than 2 years.

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- 1 (a-5) If a violation of subsection (a-1) of this Section 2 results in the death of another person, in addition to any 3 other penalty imposed, the person's driving privileges shall 4 be suspended for 2 years.
- 5 (a-6) The Secretary of State shall, upon receiving a 6 record of a judgment entered against a person under subsection 7 (a-1) of this Section:
- 8 (1) suspend the person's driving privileges for the 9 mandatory period; or
- 10 (2) extend the period of an existing suspension by the 11 appropriate mandatory period.
 - (b) The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way to any authorized vehicle obviously and actually engaged in work upon a highway whenever the vehicle engaged in construction or maintenance work displays flashing lights as provided in Section 12-215 of this Act.
 - (c) The driver of a vehicle shall stop if signaled to do so by a flagger or a traffic control signal and remain in such position until signaled to proceed. If a driver of a vehicle fails to stop when signaled to do so by a flagger, the flagger is authorized to report such offense to the State's Attorney or authorized prosecutor. The penalties imposed for a violation of this subsection (c) shall be in addition to any penalties imposed for a violation of subsection (a-1).
- 25 (Source: P.A. 100-201, eff. 8-18-17; 101-172, eff. 1-1-20.)