

1 AN ACT concerning vehicles.

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 12-215 and by adding Section 12-203.1 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/12-203.1 new)

7 Sec. 12-203.1. Oscillating, rotating, or flashing amber
8 lights on parked farm vehicles. Beginning July 1, 2004, any
9 farm vehicle or implement of husbandry standing on any portion
10 of a highway, including the shoulder, during the period from
11 sunset to sunrise must be equipped with at least one
12 oscillating, flashing, or rotating amber light and must have
13 the light lighted.

14 (625 ILCS 5/12-215) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 12-215)

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

17 (a) The use of red or white oscillating, rotating or
18 flashing lights, whether lighted or unlighted, is prohibited
19 except on:

20 1. Law enforcement vehicles of State, Federal or local
21 authorities;

22 2. A vehicle operated by a police officer or county
23 coroner and designated or authorized by local authorities,
24 in writing, as a law enforcement vehicle; however, such
25 designation or authorization must be carried in the
26 vehicle;

27 3. Vehicles of local fire departments and State or
28 federal firefighting vehicles;

29 4. Vehicles which are designed and used exclusively as
30 ambulances or rescue vehicles; furthermore, such lights
31 shall not be lighted except when responding to an emergency

1 call for and while actually conveying the sick or injured;

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

6 6. Vehicles of the Illinois Emergency Management
7 Agency, and vehicles of the Department of Nuclear Safety;

8 7. Vehicles operated by a local or county emergency
9 management services agency as defined in the Illinois
10 Emergency Management Agency Act; and

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

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

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

29 2. Motor vehicles or equipment of the State of
30 Illinois, local authorities and contractors; furthermore,
31 such lights shall not be lighted except while such vehicles
32 are engaged in maintenance or construction operations
33 within the limits of construction projects;

34 3. Vehicles or equipment used by engineering or survey
35 crews; furthermore, such lights shall not be lighted except
36 while such vehicles are actually engaged in work on a

1 highway;

2 4. Vehicles of public utilities, municipalities, or
3 other construction, maintenance or automotive service
4 vehicles except that such lights shall be lighted only as a
5 means for indicating the presence of a vehicular traffic
6 hazard requiring unusual care in approaching, overtaking
7 or passing while such vehicles are engaged in maintenance,
8 service or construction on a highway;

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

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

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

19 8. Such other vehicles as may be authorized by local
20 authorities;

21 9. Law enforcement vehicles of State or local
22 authorities when used in combination with red oscillating,
23 rotating or flashing lights;

24 9.5. Propane delivery trucks;

25 10. Vehicles used for collecting or delivering mail for
26 the United States Postal Service provided that such lights
27 shall not be lighted except when such vehicles are actually
28 being used for such purposes;

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

31 11.1. Farm vehicles and implements of husbandry, as
32 provided in Section 12-203.1;

33 12. All trucks equipped with self-compactors or
34 roll-off hoists and roll-on containers for garbage or
35 refuse hauling. Such lights shall not be lighted except
36 when such vehicles are actually being used for such

1 purposes;

2 13. Vehicles used by a security company, alarm
3 responder, or control agency;

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

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

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

14 1. Rescue squad vehicles not owned by a fire department
15 and vehicles owned or fully operated by a:

16 voluntary firefighter;

17 paid firefighter;

18 part-paid firefighter;

19 call firefighter;

20 member of the board of trustees of a fire
21 protection district;

22 paid or unpaid member of a rescue squad;

23 paid or unpaid member of a voluntary ambulance
24 unit; or

25 paid or unpaid members of a local or county
26 emergency management services agency as defined in the
27 Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, designated
28 or authorized by local authorities, in writing, and
29 carrying that designation or authorization in the
30 vehicle.

31 However, such lights are not to be lighted except when
32 responding to a bona fide emergency.

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

35 3. Law enforcement vehicles of State or local
36 authorities when used in combination with red oscillating,

1 rotating or flashing lights.

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

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

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

16 7. Vehicles of the Illinois Emergency Management
17 Agency and vehicles of the Department of Nuclear Safety,
18 when used in combination with red oscillating, rotating, or
19 flashing lights.

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

24 (c-1) In addition to the blue oscillating, rotating, or
25 flashing lights permitted under subsection (c), and
26 notwithstanding subsection (a), a vehicle operated by a
27 voluntary firefighter, a voluntary member of a rescue squad, or
28 a member of a voluntary ambulance unit may be equipped with
29 flashing white headlights and blue grill lights, which may be
30 used only in responding to an emergency call.

31 (c-2) In addition to the blue oscillating, rotating, or
32 flashing lights permitted under subsection (c), and
33 notwithstanding subsection (a), a vehicle operated by a paid or
34 unpaid member of a local or county emergency management
35 services agency as defined in the Illinois Emergency Management
36 Agency Act, may be equipped with white oscillating, rotating,

1 or flashing lights to be used in combination with blue
2 oscillating, rotating, or flashing lights, if authorization by
3 local authorities is in writing and carried in the vehicle.

4 (d) The use of a combination of amber and white
5 oscillating, rotating or flashing lights, whether lighted or
6 unlighted, is prohibited except motor vehicles or equipment of
7 the State of Illinois, local authorities, contractors, and
8 union representatives may be so equipped; furthermore, such
9 lights shall not be lighted on vehicles of the State of
10 Illinois, local authorities, and contractors except while such
11 vehicles are engaged in highway maintenance or construction
12 operations within the limits of highway construction projects,
13 and shall not be lighted on the vehicles of union
14 representatives except when those vehicles are within the
15 limits of a construction project.

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

19 (f) Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a manufacturer
20 of oscillating, rotating or flashing lights or his
21 representative from temporarily mounting such lights on a
22 vehicle for demonstration purposes only.

23 (g) Any person violating the provisions of subsections (a),
24 (b), (c) or (d) of this Section who without lawful authority
25 stops or detains or attempts to stop or detain another person
26 shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony.

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

30 (Source: P.A. 92-138, eff. 7-24-01; 92-407, eff. 8-17-01;
31 92-651, eff. 7-11-02; 92-782, eff. 8-6-02; 92-820, eff.
32 8-21-02; 92-872, eff. 6-1-03; 93-181, eff. 1-1-04.)

33 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
34 becoming law.