

By Senator Baker

20-1027-07

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to lights on motor vehicles;  
amending s. 316.2397, F.S.; revising provisions  
restricting the use of certain colored lights;  
providing for lights on vehicles owned or  
leased by private security agencies; removing  
reference to watch, guard, and patrol agencies  
licensed under specified provisions; providing  
an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 316.2397, Florida  
Statutes, is amended to read:

316.2397 Certain lights prohibited; exceptions.--

(3) Vehicles of the fire department and fire patrol,  
including vehicles of volunteer firefighters as permitted  
under s. 316.2398, vehicles of medical staff physicians or  
technicians of medical facilities licensed by the state as  
authorized under s. 316.2398, ambulances as authorized under  
this chapter, and buses and taxicabs as authorized under s.  
316.2399 are permitted to show or display red lights. Vehicles  
of the fire department, fire patrol, police vehicles, and such  
ambulances and emergency vehicles of municipal and county  
departments, public service corporations operated by private  
corporations, the Department of Environmental Protection, the  
Department of Transportation, and the Department of  
Agriculture and Consumer Services as are designated or  
authorized by their respective department or the chief of  
police of an incorporated city or any sheriff of any county  
are hereby authorized to operate emergency lights and sirens

1 | in an emergency. Wreckers, mosquito control fog and spray  
2 | vehicles, and emergency vehicles of governmental departments  
3 | or public service corporations may show or display amber  
4 | lights when in actual operation or when a hazard exists  
5 | provided they are not used going to and from the scene of  
6 | operation or hazard without specific authorization of a law  
7 | enforcement officer or law enforcement agency. Wreckers must  
8 | use amber rotating or flashing lights while performing  
9 | recoveries and loading on the roadside day or night, and may  
10 | use such lights while towing a vehicle on wheel lifts, slings,  
11 | or under reach if the operator of the wrecker deems such  
12 | lights necessary. A flatbed, car carrier, or rollback may not  
13 | use amber rotating or flashing lights when hauling a vehicle  
14 | on the bed unless it creates a hazard to other motorists  
15 | because of protruding objects. Further, escort vehicles may  
16 | show or display amber lights when in the actual process of  
17 | escorting overdimensioned equipment, material, or buildings as  
18 | authorized by law. Vehicles owned or leased by private  
19 | security agencies ~~of private watch, guard, or patrol agencies~~  
20 | ~~licensed pursuant to chapter 493~~ may show or display green and  
21 | amber lights, with either color being no greater than 50  
22 | percent of the lights displayed, while the security personnel  
23 | are engaged in security duties on private or public property  
24 | ~~patrolling condominium, cooperative, and private residential~~  
25 | ~~and business communities by which employed and which traverse~~  
26 | ~~public streets or highways.~~

27 |           Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.  
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