

HB 707

2007

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to lights on motor vehicles; amending s.  
3           316.2397, F.S.; revising provisions restricting the use of  
4           certain colored lights; providing for lights on vehicles  
5           owned or leased by private security agencies; removing  
6           reference to watch, guard, and patrol agencies licensed  
7           under specified provisions; providing an effective date.  
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9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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11           Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 316.2397, Florida  
12   Statutes, is amended to read:

13           316.2397   Certain lights prohibited; exceptions.--

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

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29 sirens in an emergency. Wreckers, mosquito control fog and spray  
30 vehicles, and emergency vehicles of governmental departments or  
31 public service corporations may show or display amber lights  
32 when in actual operation or when a hazard exists provided they  
33 are not used going to and from the scene of operation or hazard  
34 without specific authorization of a law enforcement officer or  
35 law enforcement agency. Wreckers must use amber rotating or  
36 flashing lights while performing recoveries and loading on the  
37 roadside day or night, and may use such lights while towing a  
38 vehicle on wheel lifts, slings, or under reach if the operator  
39 of the wrecker deems such lights necessary. A flatbed, car  
40 carrier, or rollback may not use amber rotating or flashing  
41 lights when hauling a vehicle on the bed unless it creates a  
42 hazard to other motorists because of protruding objects.  
43 Further, escort vehicles may show or display amber lights when  
44 in the actual process of escorting overdimensioned equipment,  
45 material, or buildings as authorized by law. Vehicles owned or  
46 leased by private security agencies ~~of private watch, guard, or~~  
47 ~~patrol agencies licensed pursuant to chapter 493~~ may show or  
48 display green and amber lights, with either color being no  
49 greater than 50 percent of the lights displayed, while engaged  
50 in security duties on private or public property patrolling  
51 ~~econdominium, cooperative, and private residential and business~~  
52 ~~communities by which employed and which traverse public streets~~  
53 ~~or highways.~~

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