

CS/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.
8

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 the
50 security personnel are engaged in security duties on private or
51 public property patrolling condominium, cooperative, and private
52 ~~residential and business communities by which employed and which~~
53 ~~traverse public streets or highways.~~

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