

File No. 1179

Substitute Senate Bill No. 257



Senate, May 19, 1971. The Committee on Transportation reported through Senator Mondani of the 33rd District, Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON LAMPS AND FLASHING LIGHTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-96g of the 1969  
2 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and  
3 the following is substituted in lieu thereof: (a)  
4 Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a  
5 motor vehicle, other than head lamps, spot lamps  
6 or auxiliary driving lamps, which projects a beam  
7 of light of an intensity greater than three  
8 hundred candle power shall be so directed that no  
9 part of the beam will strike the level of the  
10 roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance  
11 of more than seventy-five feet from the vehicle.  
12 (b) No person shall drive or move any vehicle or  
13 equipment upon any highway with any lamp or device  
14 thereon displaying a red light visible from  
15 directly in front of the center thereof. The  
16 provisions of this subsection and subsection (c)  
17 shall not apply to authorized emergency and  
18 maintenance vehicles. (c) Flashing lights are  
19 prohibited on motor vehicles other than school  
20 busses, except (1) as a means for indicating a  
21 right or left turn, (2) flashing blue lights used  
22 by members of volunteer or civil defense fire

23 companies, as provided by subsection (b) of  
24 section 14-96p, (3) on certain emergency and  
25 maintenance vehicles by written permit from the  
26 commissioner, (4) flashing OR REVOLVING yellow  
27 lights on vehicles of carriers in rural mail-  
28 delivery service or VEHICLES TRANSPORTING OR  
29 ESCORTING ANY VEHICLE OR LOAD OR COMBINATIONS OF  
30 VEHICLES OR VEHICLES AND LOAD WHICH IS OR ARE  
31 EITHER OVERSIZE OR OVERWEIGHT OR BOTH, AND  
32 OPERATED OR TRAVELING UNDER A PERMIT ISSUED BY THE  
33 COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION PURSUANT TO SECTION  
34 14-270 OR (5) flashing red lights used by members  
35 of the fire police on a stationary vehicle as a  
36 warning signal during traffic directing operations  
37 at the scene of a fire. The prohibitions in this  
38 section shall not prevent the operator of a MOTOR  
39 VEHICLE WHO WHILE TRAVELING ON A LIMITED ACCESS  
40 DIVIDED HIGHWAY, BECAUSE OF THE GRADE, IS UNABLE  
41 TO MAINTAIN THE MINIMUM SPEED OF FORTY MILES PER  
42 HOUR, OR WHO WHILE TRAVELING ON ANY OTHER HIGHWAY  
43 IS OPERATING SUCH MOTOR VEHICLE AT SUCH SLOW SPEED  
44 AS TO OBSTRUCT OR ENDANGER FOLLOWING TRAFFIC, OR  
45 THE OPERATOR OF A disabled vehicle stopped on a  
46 hazardous location on the highway, or in close  
47 proximity thereto, from flashing lights, installed  
48 on the vehicle primarily for other purposes, in  
49 any manner that he selects so as to indicate that  
50 such vehicle is TRAVELING SLOWLY, OBSTRUCTING  
51 TRAFFIC OR IS disabled and is a hazard to be  
52 avoided. The commissioner is authorized, at his  
53 discretion, to issue special permits for the use  
54 of flashing OR REVOLVING lights on emergency  
55 vehicles, ON ESCORT VEHICLES and on maintenance  
56 vehicles, provided any person, firm or corporation  
57 other than the state or any metropolitan district,  
58 town, city or borough shall pay an annual permit  
59 fee of two dollars for each such vehicle, PROVIDED  
60 VEHICLES NOT REGISTERED IN THIS STATE USED FOR  
61 TRANSPORTING OR ESCORTING ANY VEHICLE OR LOAD OR  
62 COMBINATIONS OF VEHICLES OR VEHICLES AND LOAD  
63 WHICH IS OR ARE EITHER OVERSIZE OR OVERWEIGHT OR  
64 BOTH WHEN OPERATING UNDER A PERMIT ISSUED BY THE  
65 COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION PURSUANT TO SECTION  
66 14-270, SHALL NOT REQUIRE SUCH PERMIT.

67 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its  
68 passage.

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT,

Bill No. 257Page 1 of 2Introduced by Senator Burke, 3rd District

Date .....

Ref. to Committee on Transportation

General Assembly,

January Session, A. D., 19 .....

**AN ACT CONCERNING SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON LAMPS.  
FLASHING LIGHTS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 14-96q of the 1969 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

(a) Any lighted lamp or illuminating device upon a motor vehicle, other than head lamps, spot lamps or auxiliary driving lamps, which projects a beam of light of an intensity greater than three hundred candle power shall be so directed that no part of the beam will strike the level of the roadway on which the vehicle stands at a distance of more than seventy-five feet from the vehicle. (b) No person shall drive or move any vehicle or equipment upon any highway with any lamp or device thereon displaying a red light visible from directly in front of the center thereof. The provisions of this subsection and subsection (c) shall not apply to authorized emergency and maintenance vehicles. (c) Flashing lights are prohibited on motor vehicles other than school busses, except (1) as a means for indicating a right or left turn, (2) flashing blue lights used by members of volunteer or civil defense fire companies, as provided by subsection (b) of section 14-96p, (3) on certain emergency and maintenance vehicles by written permit from the commissioner, (4) flashing or revolving yellow lights on vehicles of carriers in rural mail delivery service or vehicles

transporting or escorting oversize and/or overweight vehicles and/or loads, when required by a permit issued by the commissioner of transportation pursuant to section 14-270 or (5) flashing red lights used by members of the fire police on a stationary vehicle as a warning signal during traffic directing operations at the scene of a fire. The prohibitions in this section shall not prevent the operator of a motor vehicle traveling on a limited access divided highway, when because of grade, does not maintain the minimum speed of forty miles per hour, or when traveling on any other highway at such slow speed as to obstruct or endanger following traffic, or the operator of a disabled vehicle stopped on a hazardous location on the highway, or in close proximity thereto, from flashing lights, installed primarily for other purposes, in any manner that he selects so as to indicate that such vehicle is obstructing traffic or is disabled and is a hazard to be avoided. The commissioner is authorized, at his discretion, to issue special permits for the use of flashing or revolving lights on emergency vehicles, on escort vehicles and on maintenance vehicles, provided any person, firm or corporation other than the state or any metropolitan district, town, city or borough shall pay an annual permit fee of two dollars for each such vehicle, except that vehicles not registered in this state used for transporting or escorting oversize and/or overweight vehicles and/or loads when operating under a permit issued by the commissioner of transportation pursuant to section 14-270, shall not require such permit.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect from its passage.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: To permit flashing lights on slow commercial vehicles on any highways or on vehicles transporting oversize and/or overweight loads.