

SENATE BILL No. 62

By Committee on Transportation

1-31

1 AN ACT regulating traffic; concerning authorized emergency vehicles;
2 relating to police vehicles; exempting police vehicle drivers engaged in
3 certain actions from audible or visual signal requirements.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. (a) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle operated
7 as a police vehicle shall not be required to make use of audible signals
8 meeting the requirements of K.S.A. 8-1738, and amendments thereto, or
9 visual signals meeting the requirements of K.S.A. 8-1720, and
10 amendments thereto, if such emergency vehicle is engaged in any law
11 enforcement actions reasonably enhanced by such vehicle's operation.
12 Such actions include, but are not limited to:

13 (1) Approaching the proximity of a location to deliver law
14 enforcement services where an expedited arrival is required and the use of
15 audible or visual signals might:

16 (A) Alert persons to flee;

17 (B) cause the destruction of evidence; or

18 (C) result in injury to any person;

19 (2) monitoring for indications of a crime or a need for law
20 enforcement services;

21 (3) engaging in the surveillance of:

22 (A) A vehicle;

23 (B) the occupants of a vehicle; or

24 (C) other persons who are suspected of involvement in a crime;

25 (4) obtaining evidence of a violation for someone exceeding the
26 maximum speed limit; or

27 (5) approaching a vehicle actually or suspected of violating the law
28 when the vehicle is not attempting to evade a law enforcement officer.

29 (b) Any driver who satisfies the conditions set forth in subsection (a)
30 may also perform any of the following actions while the driver is actively
31 engaged in the actions set forth in subsection (a):

32 (1) Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this article;

33 (2) proceed past a red or traffic-control signal or stop sign, but only
34 after first coming to a stop, and then proceeding as may be necessary for
35 safe operation;

36 (3) exceed the maximum speed limits, so long as such driver does not

- 1 endanger life or property;
- 2 (4) disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning
- 3 in specified directions;
- 4 (5) proceed through toll booths on roads or bridges without stopping
- 5 for payment of tolls, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for
- 6 safe operation, and the picking up or returning of toll cards; or
- 7 (6) operate the vehicle without the use of required lighting equipment
- 8 pursuant to K.S.A. 8-1703 through 8-1708, and amendments thereto.
- 9 (c) The provisions of this section shall not relieve the driver of an
- 10 authorized emergency vehicle from the consequences of reckless disregard
- 11 for the safety of others.
- 12 (d) This section shall be a part of and supplemental to article 15 of
- 13 chapter 8 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto.
- 14 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
- 15 publication in the statute book.