

1 H.481

2 Introduced by Representatives Shand of Weathersfield, Bissonnette of
3 Winooski, Botzow of Pownal, Burke of Brattleboro, Consejo of
4 Sheldon, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Deen of Westminster,
5 Howrigan of Fairfield, Johnson of South Hero, Malcolm of
6 Pawlet, Marcotte of Coventry, Marek of Newfane, McAllister
7 of Highgate, Smith of Mendon, Turner of Milton and Webb of
8 Shelburne

9 Referred to Committee on

10 Date:

11 Subject: Motor vehicles; operation of vehicles; sirens; red signal lamps; first
12 responders; out-of-state

13 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to allow out-of-state first responder
14 vehicles to use sirens and red or red and white signal lamps in Vermont when
15 responding to emergencies.

16 An act relating to permitting out-of-state first responder vehicles to use
17 sirens and red or red and white signal lamps in Vermont when responding to
18 emergencies

19 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

1 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 1252 is amended to read:

2 § 1252. USES OF SIRENS OR COLORED LAMPS OR BOTH

3 (a) When satisfied as to the condition and use of the vehicle, the
4 commissioner shall issue and may revoke, for cause, permits for sirens or
5 colored signal lamps in the following manner:

6 (1) Sirens or blue or blue and white signal lamps, or a combination of
7 these, for all law enforcement vehicles, owned or leased by a law enforcement
8 agency or a certified law enforcement officer and if the applicant is a
9 constable, the application shall be accompanied by a certification by the town
10 clerk that the applicant is the duly elected or appointed constable and attesting
11 that the town has not voted to limit the constable's authority to engage in
12 enforcement activities under 24 V.S.A. § 1936a.

13 (2) Sirens and red or red and white signal lamps for all ambulances, fire
14 ~~apparatus, vehicles, or~~ vehicles owned or leased by, or provided to, volunteer
15 ~~firemen and voluntary firefighters or~~ rescue squad members, including a
16 vehicle owned by a volunteer's employer when the volunteer has the written
17 authorization of the employer to use the vehicle for emergency fire or rescue
18 activities and motor vehicles used solely in rescue operations.

19 (3) No vehicle may be authorized a permit for more than one of the
20 combinations described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.

1 (4) Notwithstanding subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, no
2 motor vehicle, other than one owned by the applicant, shall be issued a permit
3 until such time as the commissioner can adequately record the information
4 regarding both the owner of the vehicle and the applicant for the permit.

5 (5) Upon application to the commissioner, the commissioner may issue
6 a single permit for all the vehicles owned or leased by the applicant.

7 (b) Amber signal lamps shall be used on road maintenance vehicles, service
8 vehicles, and wreckers and shall be used on all registered snow removal
9 equipment when in use removing snow on public highways and the amber
10 lamps shall be mounted so as to be visible from all sides of the motor vehicle.
11 A vehicle equipped with an amber signal lamp may not be issued a permit for
12 the installation and use of a siren.

13 (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (a)(2) of this section,
14 when responding to emergencies, out-of-state ambulances, fire vehicles, or
15 vehicles owned or leased by, or provided to, volunteer firefighters or rescue
16 squad members may use sirens and red or red and white signal lamps in
17 Vermont, and a permit shall not be required for such use.