

LEGISLATIVE BILL 64

Approved by the Governor February 20, 1981

Introduced by Nichol, 48

AN ACT to amend sections 39-630 and 39-6,151, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, relating to rules of the road; to permit certain vehicles to display flashing lights; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. That section 39-630, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

39-630. (1) Whenever any highway has been divided into two or more roadways by a median, a driver shall drive only upon the right-hand roadway unless directed or permitted to use another roadway by traffic-control devices or competent authority.

(2) No driver shall drive any vehicle over, across, or within any median except through an opening in such median or at a crossover or intersection as established by competent authority. Medians on freeways shall not be crossed or entered upon at any point, unless specifically directed by competent authority.

(3) No driver except drivers of authorized emergency vehicles and drivers of wreckers or other vehicles assisting a stranded vehicle shall use any emergency entrance or median crossover on a freeway intended only for emergency vehicles, but no such excepted driver shall drive in such manner as to create a hazard to any other vehicle.

Sec. 2. That section 39-6,151, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

39-6,151. (1) A rotating or flashing red light or lights may be displayed on any motor vehicle operated by any volunteer fireman firefighter or law enforcement officer anywhere in this state while actually en route to the scene of a fire or other emergency requiring his or her services as a volunteer fireman firefighter or law enforcement officer but only after its use shall have been authorized in writing by the county sheriff. Application for a permit to display such light shall be made in writing to the sheriff on forms to be prescribed

and furnished by the superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol. The application shall be accompanied by a statement that the applicant is a volunteer **fireman** firefighter or law enforcement officer and requesting issuance of the permit, which statement shall be signed by the chief of the applicant's fire department or law enforcement superior. Such permit shall be carried at all times in the vehicle named therein. Each such permit shall expire on December 31 of each year and shall be renewed in the same manner as it was originally issued. The sheriff may at any time revoke such permit upon a showing of abuse thereof or upon receipt of notice from the chief of the fire department that the holder thereof is no longer an active volunteer **fireman** firefighter or law enforcement officer. Any person whose permit has been so revoked shall upon demand surrender it to the sheriff or his or her authorized agent.

(2) A rotating or flashing red light or lights may be displayed on any motor vehicle being used by rescue squads actually en route to, at, or returning from any emergency requiring their services, or by any privately-owned wrecker when engaged in emergency services at the scene of an accident, or at a disabled vehicle, located outside the city limits of a metropolitan or primary class city, but only after its use shall have been authorized in writing by the county sheriff. Applications shall be made and revoked in the same manner as for volunteer **firemen** firefighters as provided in subsection (1) of this section.

(3) It shall be the duty of the operator of any motor vehicle to yield the right-of-way to any motor vehicle displaying a rotating or flashing red light or lights.

Sec. 3. That original sections 39-630 and 39-6,151, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, are repealed.