

CHAPTER 925

H.B. No. 1138

AN ACT

relating to the use of flashing or alternating lights on tow trucks.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 2, Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways (Article 6701d, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Subsection (p) to read as follows:

(p) *"Tow truck" means a motor vehicle or mechanical device adapted or used to tow, winch, or otherwise move disabled vehicles.*

SECTION 2. Section 124(d), Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways (Article 6701d, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(d) The alternately flashing lighting described in Subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall not be used on any vehicle other than a school bus, a church bus, ~~[or]~~ an authorized emergency vehicle, *or a tow truck while under the direction of a law enforcement officer at the scene of an accident or while hooking up to a disabled vehicle in the roadway.*

SECTION 3. A person charged with a violation of Section 131, Uniform Act Regulating Traffic on Highways (Article 6701d, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), before the effective date of this Act is subject to the law in existence when the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense is committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurs before that date.

SECTION 4. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on April 30, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting. Passed by the Senate on May 19, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 20, 1987.

Effective June 20, 1987.