

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 83rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2001

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1414

4  
5 By: Representative Hunt  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 27-51-901 CONCERNING THE  
10 OPERATION OF VEHICLES WHEN AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE  
11 APPROACHES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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14 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 27-51-901  
15 CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF VEHICLES  
16 WHEN AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE APPROACHES.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 27-51-901, concerning the operation of  
22 vehicles when an emergency vehicle approaches, is amended to read as follows:

23 27-51-901. Operation of vehicles and streetcars on approach of  
24 authorized emergency vehicles.

25 (a) Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle,  
26 when the ~~driver is giving audible signal by siren, exhaust whistle, or bell~~  
27 authorized emergency vehicle is operating its rotating or flashing emergency  
28 lighting, the driver of every other vehicle shall ~~yield the right-of-way and~~  
29 ~~shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible~~  
30 ~~to, the right hand edge or curb of the highway clear of any intersection and~~  
31 ~~shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle~~  
32 ~~has passed,~~ do the following except when unless otherwise directed by a police  
33 law enforcement officer-:

34 (1) Yield the right-of-way;

35 (2) Immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as  
36 possible to, the right hand edge or curb of the roadway clear of any

1 intersection; and

2 (3) Stop and remain in the position until the authorized  
3 emergency vehicle has passed.

4 ~~Upon the approach of an~~ approaching a stationary authorized  
5 emergency vehicle, ~~as stated in subsection (a) of this section, the motorman~~  
6 ~~of every streetcar shall immediately stop the car clear of any intersection~~  
7 ~~and keep it in that position until the authorized emergency vehicle has~~  
8 ~~passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.~~ when the  
9 authorized emergency vehicle is operating its rotating or flashing emergency  
10 lighting, a person driving an approaching vehicle shall:

11 (1) If on a highway having two (2) or more lanes proceeding in  
12 the same direction as the approaching vehicle, proceed with due caution, and  
13 yield the right-of-way by making a lane change into a lane not adjacent to  
14 that of the authorized emergency vehicle if possible, with due regard to  
15 safety and traffic conditions; or

16 (2) If on a highway having less than two (2) lanes proceeding in  
17 the same direction or if changing lanes would be impossible or unsafe, proceed  
18 with due caution, reduce the speed of the vehicle and maintain a safe speed  
19 for road conditions.

20 (c) This section shall not operate to relieve the driver of an  
21 authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the  
22 safety of all persons using the highway.

23 (d) For purposes of this section, "authorized emergency vehicle" means  
24 only those emergency vehicles as defined by § 27-49-219(d)(1)(A) and (B).

25 (e) Any person who violates subsection (a) or (b) of this section is  
26 guilty of a Class B misdemeanor, provided that if the violation of subsection  
27 (a) or (b) results in the death of, or serious physical injury to, any person,  
28 the person shall be guilty of a Class D felony.

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