

1-1 By: Barrientos, et al. S.B. No. 193
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 14, 2003; January 30, 2003,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Infrastructure
1-4 Development and Security; February 17, 2003, reported favorably by
1-5 the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; February 17, 2003, sent to
1-6 printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to vehicles passing certain stationary emergency vehicles
1-10 on a highway; providing a penalty.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 545, Transportation Code,
1-13 is amended by adding Section 545.157 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 545.157. PASSING AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLE. (a)
1-15 On approaching a stationary authorized emergency vehicle using
1-16 visual signals that meet the requirements of Sections 547.305 and
1-17 547.702, an operator shall:

1-18 (1) if possible to do so safely under the traffic
1-19 conditions, vacate the lane closest to the emergency vehicle when
1-20 driving on a highway with two or more lanes traveling in the
1-21 direction of the emergency vehicle; or

1-22 (2) reduce speed and maintain a safe speed for road
1-23 conditions if vacating a lane would be impossible or unsafe.

1-24 (b) A violation of this section is a Class A misdemeanor if
1-25 the violation results in bodily injury or property damage.

1-26 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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