

By: Murr, Israel

H.B. No. 1223

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the operation and movement of authorized emergency vehicles.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 545.156(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) On the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle using audible and visual signals that meet the requirements of Sections 547.305 and 547.702, or of a police vehicle lawfully using ~~[only]~~ an audible or visual signal, an operator, unless otherwise directed by a police officer, shall:

(1) yield the right-of-way;

(2) immediately drive to a position parallel to and as close as possible to the right-hand edge or curb of the roadway clear of any intersection; and

(3) stop and remain standing until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed.

SECTION 2. Section 546.002(b), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Sections 546.001(2), (3), and (4) apply ~~[Section 546.001 applies]~~ only when the operator is:

(1) responding to an emergency call;

(2) pursuing an actual or suspected violator of the law;

- 1                   (3) responding to but not returning from a fire alarm;
- 2                   (4) directing or diverting traffic for public safety
- 3 purposes; or
- 4                   (5) conducting a police escort.

5                   SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.