AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-7-23, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
AUTHORIZE THE USE OF AUXILIARY WHITE LIGHTS MOUNTED ON OR VISIBLE
FROM THE REAR OF A MOTOR VEHICLE WITH A GROSS WEIGHT NOT TO EXCEED
12,001 POUNDS IF THE LIGHTS ARE DESIGNED BY THE MOTOR VEHICLE
MANUFACTURER SO THAT THEY MAY ONLY BE ILLUMINATED WHENEVER THE
VEHICLE IS NOT IN MOTION AND THE TRANSMISSION OF THE VEHICLE IS IN
THE PARK POSITION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 63-7-23, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
amended as follows:

63-7-23. The color of lighting devices shall be as follows:

(a) All front clearance lamps, and all side marker
lamps, except the one on each side at or near the rear of any bus,
truck, truck tractor, semitrailer, full trailer or pole trailer,
shall when lighted display an amber color.

(b) No red lighting device of any character shall be
mounted at any place other than on or near the rear of any bus,
truck, truck tractor, semitrailer, full trailer or pole trailer.

However, school buses owned by or under contract with a school
district of this state may have affixed at or near the front end
thereof red lighting devices that may be caused to blink when the
school bus is stopped or in the process of stopping for the
purpose of loading or unloading school children. A school bus
also may be equipped with a white, flashing strobe light on the
roof of the vehicle installed according to standards promulgated
by the Mississippi Department of Education as authorized under
Section 37-41-1(c).
Section 1.

(c) All rear clearance lamps, the side marker lamps on each side at or near the rear, and any other lamps mounted on the rear, on any bus, truck, truck tractor, semitrailer, full trailer or pole trailer shall when lighted display a red color. However, the stoplight or other warning device on the rear of any motor vehicle may be red or amber.

(d) Backing lights of any color may be mounted on the rear of any motor vehicle if the switch controlling such lights be so arranged that they may be turned on only when the vehicle is in reverse gear. Such backing lights when unlighted shall be so colored or otherwise arranged as not to reflect objectionable glare in the eyes of drivers of vehicles approaching from the rear.

(e) Auxiliary white lights mounted on or near the rear of a motor vehicle, or visible from the rear of the vehicle, are not prohibited under the provisions of this section if (i) the gross weight of the vehicle does not exceed twelve thousand one pounds (12,001) and (ii) the lights are designed by the motor vehicle manufacturer so that they may only be illuminated whenever the vehicle is not in motion and the transmission of the vehicle is in the park position.

No provision of this section shall be so construed as to prohibit the use of any white light or lights for the purpose of illuminating license plates.

Any lamps on a vehicle, other than those expressly required or permitted by the provisions of this chapter, shall, if visible from the front, display a white or amber light; if visible from either side, display an amber light; and if visible from the rear, display a red light.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2001.