

By: Senator(s) Dearing

To: Highways and
Transportation

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 2737

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-7-23, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 ALLOW THE USE OF CERTAIN AUXILIARY WHITE LIGHTS MOUNTED ON OR NEAR
3 THE REAR OF A MOTOR VEHICLE UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS; AND FOR
4 RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

8 63-7-23. (1) The color of lighting devices shall be as
9 follows:

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

14 (b) No red lighting device of any character shall be
15 mounted at any place other than on or near the rear of any bus,
16 truck, truck tractor, semitrailer, full trailer or pole trailer.
17 However, school buses owned by or under contract with a school
18 district of this state may have affixed at or near the front end
19 thereof red lighting devices that may be caused to blink when the
20 school bus is stopped or in the process of stopping for the
21 purpose of loading or unloading school children. A school bus
22 also may be equipped with a white, flashing strobe light on the
23 roof of the vehicle installed according to standards promulgated
24 by the Mississippi Department of Education as authorized under
25 Section 37-41-1(c).

26 (c) All rear clearance lamps, the side-marker lamps on
27 each side at or near the rear, and any other lamps mounted on the
28 rear, on any bus, truck, truck tractor, semitrailer, full trailer



29 or pole trailer shall when lighted display a red color. However,
30 the stop light or other warning device on the rear of any motor
31 vehicle may be red or amber.

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

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

42 (3) Auxiliary white lights mounted on or near the rear of a
43 motor vehicle, or visible from the rear of the vehicle, shall not
44 be prohibited under the provisions of this section if (a) the
45 vehicle's gross weight is less than twelve thousand one (12,001)
46 pounds, and (b) the lights are designed by the motor vehicle
47 manufacturer so that they may only be illuminated whenever the
48 vehicle is not in motion and the transmission of the vehicle is in
49 the park position. The provisions of this subsection regarding
50 the vehicle not being in motion and its transmission being in the
51 park position shall not apply to illumination clearly intended to
52 light the cargo area of any vehicle, provided such illumination
53 does not reflect objectionable glare or lighting in the eyes of
54 drivers of vehicles approaching from the rear.

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

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

