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LAW/KR

P.L.2013, CHAPTER 129, *approved August 9, 2013*

Assembly, No. 3253 (*Second Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning <sup>1</sup>**【spotlights】** vehicle spot lamps<sup>1</sup> and amending  
2 R.S.39:3-53.

3  
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6  
7 1. R.S.39:3-53 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-53. <sup>1</sup>**【Any】** A<sup>1</sup> motor vehicle may be equipped with <sup>1</sup>**【not**  
9 **to exceed】** no more than<sup>1</sup> one spot lamp <sup>1</sup>,<sup>1</sup> but the use of any such  
10 spot lamp for driving purposes is prohibited and every lighted spot  
11 lamp shall be so aimed and used so as not to be <sup>1</sup>**【dazzling】**  
12 **distracting**<sup>1</sup> or glaring to any person. <sup>1</sup>**【The limitation on the**  
13 **number of spot lamps set forth in this section】** The provisions of  
14 this section<sup>1</sup> shall not apply to <sup>1</sup>**【any】**<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>authorized<sup>2</sup> emergency  
15 <sup>1</sup>**【services】** <sup>2</sup>【service】<sup>2</sup> vehicles <sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>, including, but not limited  
16 to,<sup>1</sup> law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and official fire  
17 department vehicles】<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>, or to <sup>2</sup>【vehicles used for a safety service  
18 patrol or emergency service patrol program operated by the  
19 Department of Transportation, a private entity under contract with  
20 the department, or through the use of a public-private partnership or  
21 demonstration project<sup>1</sup>**】** incident management response team  
22 vehicles or safety service patrol vehicles.

23 For the purposes of this section:

24 “Incident management response team vehicle” means a vehicle  
25 operated by the Department of Transportation or by a private entity  
26 under contract with the department which is equipped to respond at  
27 any time to assist the State Police with highway incidents.

28 “Safety service patrol vehicle” means a vehicle operated by the  
29 department or by a private entity under contract with the department  
30 consistent with the provisions of subsection (m) of section 5 of  
31 P.L.1966, c.301 (C.27:1A-5), which is equipped to respond to  
32 highway incidents and provide assistance to motorists in disabled  
33 vehicles during designated hours in designated coverage areas in the  
34 State<sup>2</sup>.

35 (cf: R.S.39:3-53)

36  
37 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly ATR committee amendments adopted January 17, 2013.

<sup>2</sup>Assembly floor amendments adopted March 21, 2013.

**A3253 [2R]**

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3

Provides emergency vehicle exemption for vehicle spot lamps.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 3253

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 215th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 27, 2012

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman CRAIG J. COUGHLIN**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides emergency services exemption for vehicle spotlights.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



A3253 COUGHLIN

2

1 AN ACT concerning spotlights and amending R.S.39:3-53.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. R.S.39:3-53 is amended to read as follows:

7 39:3-53. Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed  
8 one spot lamp but the use of any such spot lamp for driving  
9 purposes is prohibited and every lighted spot lamp shall be so aimed  
10 and used so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

11 The limitation on the number of spot lamps set forth in this  
12 section shall not apply to any emergency services vehicles including  
13 law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and official fire department  
14 vehicles.

15 (cf: R.S.39:3-53)

16

17 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

21

22 This bill provides clarification that emergency services entities  
23 may equip vehicles with more than one spot lamp as needed.

24 Law Enforcement vehicles, and other emergency vehicles, are  
25 sometimes equipped with an auxiliary lamp to illuminate signs,  
26 house numbers, and people as needed.

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND  
INDEPENDENT AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3253**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JANUARY 17, 2013

The Assembly Transportation, Public Works and Independent Authorities Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 3253.

As amended and reported, this bill exempts emergency service vehicles, and vehicles used for a safety service patrol or emergency service patrol program operated by the Department of Transportation (DOT), from the law limiting vehicles to one spot lamp. The bill also provides that a spot lamp not be used in a way that is distracting or glaring. Under the bill, emergency service vehicles include, but are not limited to, law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and official fire department vehicles.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to exempt emergency service vehicles including, but not limited to, law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and official fire department vehicles, and vehicles used for a safety service patrol or emergency service patrol program operated by the DOT from the law limiting motor vehicles to no more than one spot lamp. The committee also clarified that the use of a spot lamp is not to be distracting to any person.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**ASSEMBLY, No. 3253**

with Assembly Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Assemblyman COUGHLIN)

ADOPTED: MARCH 21, 2013

These Assembly floor amendments specify that authorized emergency vehicles, incident management response team vehicles, and safety service patrol vehicles are exempted from the law limiting the number of spot lamps a vehicle is permitted to have.

Authorized emergency vehicles are defined in R.S.39:1-1 to mean vehicles of the fire department, police vehicles, and such ambulances and other vehicles as are approved by the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission when operated in response to an emergency call.

The amendments define “incident management response team vehicle” to mean a vehicle operated by the Department of Transportation (department) or by a private entity under contract with the department which is equipped to respond at any time to assist the State Police with highway incidents and “safety service patrol vehicle” to mean a vehicle operated by the department or by a private entity under contract with the department which is equipped to respond to highway incidents and provide assistance to motorists in disabled vehicles during designated hours in designated coverage areas in the State.



**SENATE, No. 2335**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**215th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 19, 2012

**Sponsored by:**  
**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**  
**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides emergency services exemption for vehicle spotlights.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



S2335 VITALE

2

1 AN ACT concerning spotlights and amending R.S.39:3-53.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
4 *of New Jersey:*

5

6 1. R.S.39:3-53 is amended to read as follows:

7 39:3-53. Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not to exceed  
8 one spot lamp but the use of any such spot lamp for driving  
9 purposes is prohibited and every lighted spot lamp shall be so aimed  
10 and used so as not to be dazzling or glaring to any person.

11 The limitation on the number of spot lamps set forth in this  
12 section shall not apply to any emergency services vehicles including  
13 law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and official fire department  
14 vehicles.

15 (cf: R.S.39:3-53)

16

17 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

18

19

20

STATEMENT

21

22 This bill provides clarification that emergency services entities  
23 may equip vehicles with more than one spot lamp as needed.

24 Law Enforcement vehicles, and other emergency vehicles, are  
25 sometimes equipped with an auxiliary lamp to illuminate signs,  
26 house numbers, and people as needed.

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

# SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 2335**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JANUARY 14, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 2335.

As amended and reported, this bill exempts emergency service vehicles, and vehicles used for a safety service patrol or emergency service patrol program operated by the Department of Transportation (DOT), from the law limiting vehicles to one spot lamp. The bill also provides that a spot lamp not be used in such a way as to be distracting or glaring. Under the bill, emergency service vehicles include, but are not limited to, law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and official fire department vehicles.

The committee amended the bill to, exempt emergency service vehicles including, but not limited to, law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, and official fire department vehicles, and vehicles used for a safety service patrol or emergency service patrol program operated by the DOT from the law limiting motor vehicles to no more than one spot lamp. The committee also clarified that the use of a spot lamp is not to be distracting to any person.

STATEMENT TO  
[First Reprint]  
**SENATE, No. 2335**

with Senate Floor Amendments  
(Proposed by Senator VITALE)

ADOPTED: MAY 13, 2013

These Senate floor amendments specify that authorized emergency vehicles, incident management response team vehicles, and safety service patrol vehicles are exempted from the law limiting the number of spot lamps a vehicle is permitted to have.

Authorized emergency vehicles are defined in R.S.39:1-1 to mean vehicles of the fire department, police vehicles, and such ambulances and other vehicles as are approved by the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission when operated in response to an emergency call.

The amendments define “incident management response team vehicle” to mean a vehicle operated by the Department of Transportation (department) or by a private entity under contract with the department which is equipped to respond at any time to assist the State Police with highway incidents and “safety service patrol vehicle” to mean a vehicle operated by the department or by a private entity under contract with the department which is equipped to respond to highway incidents and provide assistance to motorists in disabled vehicles during designated hours in designated coverage areas in the State.