

First Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 19-0993.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 19-1265

---

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Esgar and Soper,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Rankin and Winter,

---

House Committees

Transportation & Local Government

Senate Committees

---

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR A PERSON WHO PASSES A SNOWPLOW  
102 THAT IS PERFORMING ITS SERVICE FUNCTION IN ECHELON  
103 FORMATION WITH AT LEAST ONE OTHER SNOWPLOW.

---

Bill Summary

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

Under current law, a person commits a class B traffic offense if the person fails to exercise more than ordinary care and caution in approaching, overtaking, or passing an authorized service vehicle that is performing its service function and displaying its lights. The bill states that a person commits a class A traffic offense if the person passes a

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

snowplow that is operated by a state, county, or local government, displaying its lights, and performing its service function in echelon formation with one or more other such snowplows. "Echelon formation" means a formation in which snowplows are arranged diagonally, with each unit stationed behind and to the right, or behind and to the left, of the unit ahead.

---

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-4-214, **amend** (1)  
3 and (6) as follows:

4           **42-4-214. Visual signals on service vehicles - definition.**

5 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, ~~on or after January 1,~~  
6 ~~1978,~~ every authorized service vehicle ~~shall~~ **MUST**, in addition to any  
7 other equipment required by this ~~article~~ **ARTICLE 4**, be equipped with one  
8 or more warning lamps mounted as high as practicable, which ~~shall~~ **MUST**  
9 be capable of displaying in all directions one or more flashing, oscillating,  
10 or rotating yellow lights. Only yellow and no other color or combination  
11 of colors ~~shall~~ **MAY** be used as a warning lamp on an authorized service  
12 vehicle; except that an authorized service vehicle snowplow operated by  
13 a ~~general purpose~~ **STATE, COUNTY, OR LOCAL** government may also be  
14 equipped with and use no more than two flashing, oscillating, or rotating  
15 blue lights as warning lamps. Lighted directional signs used by police and  
16 highway departments to direct traffic need not be visible except to the  
17 front and rear. Such lights ~~shall~~ **MUST** have sufficient intensity to be  
18 visible at five hundred feet in normal sunlight.

19           (6) (a) Any person who violates any provision of this section  
20 commits a class B traffic infraction; **EXCEPT THAT A PERSON COMMITS A**  
21 **CLASS A TRAFFIC INFRACTION IF THE PERSON PASSES AN AUTHORIZED**  
22 **SERVICE VEHICLE SNOWPLOW THAT IS OPERATED BY A STATE, COUNTY, OR**

1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT, DISPLAYING LIGHTS AS AUTHORIZED IN SUBSECTION  
2 (1) OF THIS SECTION, AND PERFORMING ITS SERVICE FUNCTION IN ECHELON  
3 FORMATION WITH ONE OR MORE OTHER SUCH SNOWPLOWS.

4 (b) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (6), UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
5 OTHERWISE REQUIRES, "ECHELON FORMATION" MEANS A FORMATION IN  
6 WHICH SNOWPLOWS ARE ARRANGED DIAGONALLY, WITH EACH UNIT  
7 STATIONED BEHIND AND TO THE RIGHT, OR BEHIND AND TO THE LEFT, OF  
8 THE UNIT AHEAD.

9 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 42-4-224, **amend** (6)  
10 as follows:

11 **42-4-224. Horns or warning devices - definition.** (6) Any  
12 person who violates any provision of this section commits a class B  
13 traffic infraction; EXCEPT THAT A PERSON COMMITS A CLASS A TRAFFIC  
14 INFRACTION IF THE PERSON PASSES AN AUTHORIZED SERVICE VEHICLE  
15 SNOWPLOW THAT IS OPERATED BY A STATE, COUNTY, OR LOCAL  
16 GOVERNMENT, DISPLAYING LIGHTS AS AUTHORIZED IN SECTION 42-4-214,  
17 AND PERFORMING ITS SERVICE FUNCTION IN ECHELON FORMATION WITH  
18 ONE OR MORE OTHER SUCH SNOWPLOWS.

19 (b) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (6), UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
20 OTHERWISE REQUIRES, "ECHELON FORMATION" MEANS A FORMATION IN  
21 WHICH SNOWPLOWS ARE ARRANGED DIAGONALLY, WITH EACH UNIT  
22 STATIONED BEHIND AND TO THE RIGHT, OR BEHIND AND TO THE LEFT, OF  
23 THE UNIT AHEAD.

24 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
25 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
26 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
27 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a

1 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
2 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
3 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
4 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
5 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
6 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.