

CHAPTER 79

MOTOR VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC REGULATION

HOUSE BILL 09-1027

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Rice, Fischer, Levy, Marostica, McFadyen, Merrifield, Primavera, Labuda, Priola, Ryden, Todd;
also SENATOR(S) Gibbs, Williams.

AN ACT**CONCERNING THE DUTY OF DRIVERS TO YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO TRANSIT BUSES ENTERING TRAFFIC.**

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

SECTION 1. Part 7 of article 4 of title 42, Colorado Revised Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

42-4-713. Yielding right-of-way to transit buses - definitions - penalty.

(1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(a) "PUBLIC MASS TRANSIT OPERATOR" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS IN SECTION 43-1-102 (5), C.R.S.

(b) "TRANSIT BUS" MEANS A BUS OPERATED BY A PUBLIC MASS TRANSIT OPERATOR.

(2) DRIVERS OF VEHICLES IN THE SAME LANE OF TRAFFIC AND BEHIND A TRANSIT BUS SHALL YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO THE BUS IF:

(a) THE DRIVER OF THE TRANSIT BUS, AFTER STOPPING TO ALLOW PASSENGERS TO BOARD OR EXIT, IS SIGNALING AN INTENTION TO ENTER A TRAFFIC LANE; AND

(b) A YIELD SIGN AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION IS DISPLAYED AND ILLUMINATED ON THE BACK OF THE TRANSIT BUS.

(3) THE YIELD SIGN REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

(a) WARN A DRIVER OF A VEHICLE BEHIND THE TRANSIT BUS THAT THE DRIVER IS REQUIRED TO YIELD WHEN THE BUS IS ENTERING A TRAFFIC LANE; AND

(b) BE ILLUMINATED WHEN THE DRIVER OF THE TRANSIT BUS IS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER A TRAFFIC LANE.

(4) THIS SECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE A PUBLIC MASS TRANSIT OPERATOR TO INSTALL YIELD SIGNS AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION ON TRANSIT BUSES OPERATED BY THE PUBLIC MASS TRANSIT OPERATOR.

(5) THIS SECTION DOES NOT RELIEVE A DRIVER OF A TRANSIT BUS FROM THE DUTY TO DRIVE WITH DUE REGARD FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL PERSONS USING THE ROADWAY.

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly that is allowed for submitting a referendum petition pursuant to article V, section 1 (3) of the state constitution, (August 5, 2009, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2009); except that, if a referendum petition is filed against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part, if approved by the people, shall take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by proclamation of the governor.

Approved: April 2, 2009