

**SENATE BILL REPORT**

**SB 6168**

**AS OF JANUARY 28, 1992**

**Brief Description:** Prohibiting the citation of drivers failing to yield to unmarked and unidentified emergency vehicles.

**SPONSORS:** Senator McCaslin

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

**Staff:** Jeff Doyle (786-7322)

**Hearing Dates:** January 28, 1992

**BACKGROUND:**

The Washington State Patrol, among other law enforcement agencies, sometimes uses unmarked patrol cars for traffic enforcement. An unmarked patrol car is one which does not have the Patrol's insignia attached to the side.

Under current law, a driver of a vehicle may be cited for failure to yield to a police vehicle even if that vehicle is an unmarked patrol car. The only requirement is that the patrol car must use its siren.

**SUMMARY:**

A driver of a vehicle shall not be cited for failure to yield the right of way if the law enforcement vehicle is not clearly identified. A vehicle is clearly identified if it has the official insignia of the law enforcement agency, lettering indicating the jurisdiction of the law enforcement vehicle, or uses visual signal devices affixed across the full width of the outside of the vehicle.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** none requested