

2 SHB 1490 - H AMD 808 WITHDRAWN 2-9-98
3 By Representative Thompson

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "Sec. 1. RCW 46.61.035 and 1969 c 23 s 1 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 (1) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, when responding
10 to an emergency call or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected
11 violator of the law or when responding to but not upon returning from
12 a fire alarm, may exercise the privileges set forth in this section,
13 but subject to the conditions herein stated.

14 (2) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may:

15 (a) Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this chapter;

16 (b) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after
17 slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation;

18 (c) Exceed the maximum speed limits (~~so long as he does not~~
19 ~~endanger life or property~~);

20 (d) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or
21 turning in specified directions.

22 (3) The exemptions herein granted to an authorized emergency
23 vehicle shall apply only when such vehicle is making use of visual
24 signals meeting the requirements of RCW 46.37.190, except that: (a) An
25 authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not be
26 equipped with or display a red light visible from in front of the
27 vehicle; (b) authorized emergency vehicles shall use audible signals
28 when necessary to warn others of the emergency nature of the situation
29 but in no case shall they be required to use audible signals while
30 parked or standing.

31 (4) The foregoing provisions shall not relieve the driver of an
32 authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for
33 the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver
34 from the consequences of his reckless disregard for the safety of
35 others.

1 (5) If a police officer decides not to pursue or terminates pursuit
2 of an actual or suspected violator of the law, the officer and his or
3 her employing agency are immune from civil liability for any damages or
4 injuries caused by the fleeing suspect."

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