

# House Research Act Summary

**CHAPTER:** 319

**SESSION:** 2002 Regular Session

**TOPIC:** Penalty for obstructing emergency vehicle

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## Overview

This act enhances penalties for intentionally obstructing or failing to yield to an emergency vehicle responding to an emergency, and allows a report by a member of an emergency vehicle crew to establish probable cause for an arrest within 4 hours of the incident.

- 1 **Law enforcement vehicles going through red light or stop sign.** Amends the law that requires emergency vehicles to both sound a siren and show red lights when going through a red traffic signal or stop sign, by allowing law enforcement vehicles responding to an emergency call to either sound a siren or display at least one red light to the front.
- 2 **Emergency vehicle; penalties.** Makes it a misdemeanor to intentionally obstruct an emergency vehicle or otherwise intentionally fails to yield to an emergency vehicle. Violations that are not intentional would continue to be a petty misdemeanor.
- 3 **Arrest; citation; probable cause.** Permits a report from an emergency vehicle crew to establish probable cause for an arrest for failure to yield to an emergency vehicle, if a description of the vehicle and a license plate number are provided within four hours of the incident.