

No. 1981-82

## AN ACT

SB 356

Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, adding provisions relating to street rods, further providing for emergency vehicles and providing for the issuance of a prisoner of war registration plate.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. The definition of "emergency vehicle" in section 102 of Title 75, act of November 25, 1970 (P.L.707, No.230), known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, is amended and a definition is added to read:

§ 102. Definitions.

Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent provisions of this title which are applicable to specific provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

\* \* \*

"Emergency vehicle." A fire department vehicle, police vehicle, ambulance, blood-delivery vehicle, armed forces emergency vehicle, *one vehicle operated by a coroner or chief county medical examiner and one vehicle operated by a chief deputy coroner or deputy chief county medical examiner used for answering emergency calls*, one private vehicle of a fire or police chief or assistant chief *or, when a fire company has three or more fire vehicles, a second assistant chief, or fire police captain and fire police lieutenant* or ambulance corps commander or assistant commander or of a river rescue commander *or emergency management coordinator or fire marshal* used for answering emergency calls or other vehicle designated by the State Police under section 6106 (relating to designation of emergency vehicles by Pennsylvania State Police).

\* \* \*

"Street rod." *A modified antique motor vehicle as defined by department regulations.*

\* \* \*

Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:

§ 1340.1. *Street rod plate.*

*Upon submission by a vehicle owner of information satisfactory to the department that a motor vehicle is a street rod, accompanied by the appropriate fee, the department shall issue special plates for the vehicle which shall have the same force and effect as regular registration plates. The applicant shall comply with all laws and regulations pertaining to registration including the payment of any additional fees.*

Section 3. The section heading of section 1342 of Title 75 is amended and a subsection is added to read:

§ 1342. **[Disabled veteran plate and placard] *Veteran plates and placard.***

\* \* \*

(c) *Prisoner of war plate.*—*On the application of an ex-prisoner of war whose imprisonment while in the service of the armed forces of the United States is certified by the appropriate branch of the armed forces, the department shall issue a special registration plate designating the vehicle as belonging to an ex-prisoner of war. The registration plate shall contain the letters "POW" and such other numbers or letters as the department may determine and shall have the words "prisoner of war" in at least ten-point bold type inscribed at the bottom of the plate. The special registration plate may be used only on one passenger vehicle or one other vehicle with a registered gross weight of not more than 9,000 pounds.*

Section 4. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:

§ 1931.1. *Street rod registration plates.*

*The fee for the issuance of a street rod registration plate shall be \$20 which shall be in addition to the annual registration fee. Only one payment of the issuance fee shall be charged for each street rod registration plate issued or replaced.*

Section 5. Subsection (b) of section 4571 of Title 75 is amended to read:

§ 4571. Visual and audible signals on emergency vehicles.

\* \* \*

(b) Police **[and]**, fire *and coroner or medical examiner* vehicles.—

(1) Police, *coroner, medical examiner or fire police* vehicles may in addition to the requirements of subsection (a) be equipped with revolving or flashing blue lights. The combination of red and blue lights may be used only on police, *coroner, medical examiner or fire police* vehicles.

(2) Unmarked police vehicles, used as emergency vehicles and equipped with audible warning systems, may be equipped with the lights described in this section.

(3) Police and fire vehicles may be equipped with a mounted rack containing one or more emergency warning lights or side mounted floodlights or alley lights or all such lights.

\* \* \*

Section 6. Section 4702 of Title 75 is amended by adding a subsection to read:

§ 4702. Requirement for periodic inspection of vehicles.

\* \* \*

(b.1) *Inspection criteria for street rods.*—*The department, after consultation with the National Street Rod Association and other interested groups, shall prescribe special inspection criteria for vehicles registered as street rods.*

\* \* \*

Section 7. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 10th day of July, A. D. 1981.

DICK THORNBURGH