

SENATE BILL 207

57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2026

INTRODUCED BY

Pete Campos

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ALLOWING RECOVERY AND REPAIR
VEHICLES TO USE FLASHING RED LIGHTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 66-3-835 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,
Chapter 35, Section 141, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-3-835. SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS ON LAMPS.--

A. Lighted lamps or illuminating devices upon a
motor vehicle, other than headlamps, spot lamps, auxiliary
lamps, flashing turn signals, emergency vehicle warning lamps
and school bus warning lamps, that project a beam of light of
an intensity greater than three hundred candle power shall be
directed so that no part of the high-intensity portion of the
beam strikes the level of the roadway on which the vehicle
stands at a distance of more than seventy-five feet from the

1 vehicle.

2 B. A person shall not drive or move upon a highway
3 a vehicle or equipment with a lamp or device displaying a red
4 light visible from directly in front of the center of the
5 vehicle or equipment, except as expressly authorized or
6 required by the Motor Vehicle Code.

7 C. Flashing lights are prohibited except as
8 provided in this section and except on authorized emergency
9 vehicles, school buses, snow-removal equipment and
10 highway-marking equipment. Except as otherwise provided in
11 this section, flashing red lights may be used as warning lights
12 on disabled or parked vehicles and on any vehicle as a means of
13 indicating a turn.

14 D. A recovery or repair vehicle standing on a
15 highway for the purpose of removing, and actually engaged in
16 removing, a disabled vehicle may display flashing lights in any
17 color [~~except red~~]. This provision shall not be construed as
18 permitting the use of flashing lights by recovery or repair
19 vehicles in going to or returning from the location of disabled
20 vehicles or while engaged in towing a disabled vehicle.

21 E. Only fire department vehicles, law enforcement
22 agency vehicles, ambulances and school buses may display
23 flashing red lights visible from the front of the vehicle. All
24 other vehicles authorized by the Motor Vehicle Code to display
25 flashing lights visible from the front of the vehicle may use

.233191.1

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 any other color of light that is visible."

2 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
3 provisions of this act is July 1, 2026.

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