

1 HB519
2 164613-1
3 By Representatives Ledbetter, Daniels, Pettus, Whorton (R),
4 Hanes, Farley, Whorton (I), Moore (B), Ainsworth, Garrett,
5 South, Harper, Hill (M), Patterson, Sanderford, Wadsworth,
6 Fridy, Greer and Wilcox
7 RFD: Public Safety and Homeland Security
8 First Read: 21-APR-15

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, whenever the load of any
9 vehicle extends more than four feet beyond the rear
10 of the bed or the body of the vehicle a red or
11 orange flag not less than 12 inches both in length
12 and width must be placed at the end of the load. A
13 red light or amber strobe light that is plainly
14 visible at least 200 feet from the rear of the
15 vehicle must be displayed at the end of the load
16 between sunset and sunrise.

17 This bill would require any motor vehicle or
18 trailer transporting a load of logs, long pulpwood,
19 poles, or posts that extend more than four feet
20 beyond the rear of the body or bed of the vehicle
21 to have an amber strobe light or amber LED light
22 equipped at all times on the vehicle that flashes
23 at a rate of at least 60 flashes per minute and is
24 visible at least 500 feet from the rear and both
25 sides of the projecting load. This bill would also
26 require one bright red or orange fluorescent
27 warning flag not less than 18 inches square be

1 placed at the rear of the projecting load if the
2 load is two feet wide or less. If the load is more
3 than two feet wide this bill would require that two
4 warning flags be placed at the rear of the load to
5 indicate the maximum width of the load which
6 extends beyond the rear of the vehicle.

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8 A BILL
9 TO BE ENTITLED
10 AN ACT

11
12 Relating to motor vehicles or trailers; to require
13 any motor vehicle or trailer transporting a load of logs, long
14 pulpwood, poles, or posts under certain conditions to display
15 an amber strobe light or amber LED light at the end of the
16 load; and to require the motor vehicle or trailer to display a
17 warning flag of a certain size under certain conditions at the
18 end of the load.

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

20 Section 1. (a) (1) Any motor vehicle or trailer
21 transporting a load of logs, long pulpwood, poles, or posts
22 which extend more than four feet beyond the rear of the body
23 or bed of the vehicle shall have securely affixed as close as
24 practical to the end of the projecting load one amber strobe
25 light or one amber light-emitting diode (LED) light equipped
26 with a multidirectional type lens and mounted so as to be

1 plainly visible from a distance of at least 500 feet from the
2 rear and both sides of the projecting load.

3 (2) If the visibility requirements of this
4 subsection cannot be accomplished by the mounting of one amber
5 strobe light or one amber LED light, multiple lights shall be
6 utilized so as to meet those requirements.

7 (3) The amber strobe light or amber LED light shall
8 flash at a rate of at least 60 flashes per minute and the
9 amber strobe light or amber LED light shall be operating at
10 any time of the day or night when the vehicle is operated on
11 any highway or parked on the shoulder or immediately adjacent
12 to the traveled portion of any public roadway.

13 (4) If an amber LED light is used, the LED light
14 shall be constructed of durable, weather resistant material
15 and may be powered by the electrical system of the vehicle or
16 by an independent battery system, or both. If the LED light is
17 powered by an independent battery system, the driver of the
18 vehicle shall have in his or her immediate possession a spare,
19 charged set of batteries for use in case of battery failure.
20 Any solid state LED lighting that consists of multiple LED
21 lights shall have at least 85 percent of the LED lights in
22 operable condition.

23 (b) (1) In addition to the requirements of subsection
24 (a), any motor vehicle or trailer transporting a load of logs,
25 long pulpwood, poles, or posts which extend more than four
26 feet beyond the rear of the body or bed of the vehicle shall
27 have securely affixed at the extreme rear of the projecting

1 load a bright red or orange fluorescent warning flag this is
2 not less than 18 inches square and which is clearly visible
3 from the rear of the vehicle.

4 (2) If the projecting load is two feet wide or less,
5 there shall be one warning flag affixed to the extreme rear of
6 the projecting load. If the projecting load is wider than two
7 feet then two warning flags shall be affixed to the extreme
8 rear of the projecting load and the two flags shall be located
9 to indicate the maximum width of the load which extends beyond
10 the rear of the vehicle.

11 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
12 first day of the third month following its passage and
13 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.