

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1169 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY WARD, V. BROWN, PHILLIPS-HILL, BLOOM, KINSEY,
GABLER, MILLARD, SNYDER, MACKENZIE, METZGAR, STAATS,
McGINNIS, BOBACK, DIAMOND, SCHWEYER, McNEILL, KNOWLES, COHEN,
IRVIN, TRUITT, DAVIS, ZIMMERMAN, LONGIETTI, WATSON, SANKEY,
HARHART, READSHAW, KAUFFMAN, M. K. KELLER, KLUNK, D. COSTA,
PICKETT, MAJOR, GIBBONS, MURT, OBERLANDER AND MILNE,
MAY 12, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MAY 12, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in preliminary provisions, further providing for
3 the definition of "emergency service responder" and providing
4 for the definitions of "electric cooperative personnel" and
5 "electric utility personnel"; and, in rules of the road in
6 general, further providing for duty of driver in emergency
7 response areas.

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

10 Section 1. The definition of "emergency service responder"
11 in section 102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
12 Statutes is amended by adding a paragraph and the section is
13 amended by adding definitions to read:

14 § 102. Definitions.

15 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
16 provisions of this title which are applicable to specific
17 provisions of this title, the following words and phrases when
18 used in this title shall have, unless the context clearly

1 indicates otherwise, the meanings given to them in this section:

2 * * *

3 "Electric cooperative personnel." Individuals who:

4 (1) work as employees or contractors of an electric
5 cooperative;

6 (2) provide disaster emergency-related services,
7 including repair, renovation, installation, construction and
8 activities related to damaged, impaired or destroyed
9 infrastructure; and

10 (3) perform services under paragraph (2) within the
11 first 72 hours after a declared emergency or until the
12 expiration of a declared emergency, whichever is later.

13 * * *

14 "Electric utility personnel." Individuals who:

15 (1) work as employees or contractors of an electric
16 utility;

17 (2) provide disaster emergency-related services,
18 including repair, renovation, installation, construction and
19 activities related to damaged, impaired or destroyed
20 infrastructure; and

21 (3) perform services under paragraph (2) within the
22 first 72 hours after a declared emergency or until the
23 expiration of a declared emergency, whichever is later.

24 * * *

25 "Emergency service responder." An individual acting in an
26 official capacity as any of the following:

27 * * *

28 (14) Electric cooperative personnel and electric utility
29 personnel.

30 * * *

1 Section 2. Section 3327(f) of Title 75 is amended to read:

2 § 3327. Duty of driver in emergency response areas.

3 * * *

4 (f) Definition.--As used in this section, the [term
5 "emergency response area" means the] following words and phrases
6 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

7 "Emergency response area." Any of the following:

8 (1) The area in which emergency service responders
9 render emergency assistance to individuals on or near a
10 roadway or a police officer is conducting a traffic stop or
11 systematic check of vehicles or controlling or directing
12 traffic as long as the emergency vehicle is making use of
13 visual signals meeting the requirements of Subchapter D of
14 Chapter 45.

15 (2) The area in which electric cooperative personnel or
16 electric utility personnel provide disaster emergency-related
17 services within the first 72 hours after a declared emergency
18 or until the expiration of a declared emergency, whichever is
19 later, as long as the electric cooperative personnel or
20 electric utility personnel vehicle is making use of visual
21 signals as authorized under section 4572(b) (relating to
22 visual signals on authorized vehicles).

23 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.