

NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

courtesy • service • protection since 1935

MOVE-OVER LAW GOES INTO EFFECT JULY 1 *Law Promotes Roadside Safety for Emergency Responders*

MONTGOMERY — A new Alabama law requires motorists on roadways with four or more lanes to move over one lane when approaching emergency vehicles stopped with their flashing emergency lights activated.

Known as the “move-over” law, the act requires motorists to change into a lane not adjacent to an authorized emergency vehicle that has stopped and is displaying flashing emergency lights. The law also stipulates that when changing lanes is unsafe or not possible, motorists instead should slow down and maintain a safe speed for the road conditions.

“Alabama state troopers and other emergency responders routinely stop their vehicles roadside, and that makes them especially vulnerable,” said Col. Mike Coppage, director of the Alabama Department of Public Safety.

“Changing lanes when possible, or slowing down and proceeding with caution, provides an extra measure of safety to law enforcement officers and other emergency responders,” said Coppage.

Act 2006-546 was passed during the regular session of the Legislature and becomes effective July 1. The law’s “move-over” provision applies to roadways with four or more lanes, with at least two lanes proceeding in the same direction as the vehicle being approached.

6-16-06



for more information contact:

Public Information/Education • P.O. Box 1511 • Montgomery AL 36102-1511

(334) 242-4445 • <http://www.dps.state.al.us/>