

# Senate Bill 620

Sponsored by Senator JOHNSON (at the request of Oregon Volunteer Firefighters Association)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Increases penalty for failure to yield to emergency vehicle or ambulance. Punishes by maximum fine of \$720.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to failure to yield; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 811.145.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 811.145 is amended to read:

5 811.145. (1) A person commits the offense of failure to yield to an emergency vehicle or ambu-  
6 lance if an ambulance or emergency vehicle that is using a visual or audible signal in a manner  
7 described under ORS 820.300 and 820.320 approaches the vehicle the person is operating and the  
8 person does not do all of the following:

9 (a) Yield the right of way to the ambulance or emergency vehicle.

10 (b) Immediately drive to a position as near as possible and parallel to the right-hand edge or  
11 curb of the roadway clear of any intersection.

12 (c) Stop and remain in such position until the emergency vehicle or ambulance has passed.

13 (2) A person is not in violation of this section if the person is acting as otherwise directed by  
14 a police officer.

15 (3) This section does not relieve the driver of an emergency vehicle or ambulance from the duty  
16 to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway, nor does this section pro-  
17 tect the driver of any such vehicle from the consequence of an arbitrary exercise of the right of  
18 way granted under this section.

19 (4) The offense described in this section, failure to yield to an emergency vehicle or ambulance,  
20 is a [*Class B*] **Class A** traffic violation.

21 **SECTION 2.** The amendments to ORS 811.145 by section 1 of this 2009 Act apply to vio-  
22 lations that occur on or after the effective date of this 2009 Act.

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**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.