COMMITTEE REPORT

April 25, 2018

**S. 874**

Introduced by Senator Talley

S. Printed 4/25/18--H.

Read the first time April 3, 2018.

**THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLIC WORKS**

To whom was referred a Bill (S. 874) to amend Section 56-5-170(a) of the 1976 Code, relating to the definition of authorized emergency vehicles, to add organ procurement organization vehicles to the, etc., respectfully

**REPORT:**

That they have duly and carefully considered the same and recommend that the same do pass with amendment:

Amend the bill, as and if amended, by striking SECTION 1 and inserting:

/ SECTION 1. Section 56‑5‑170(A) of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered item to read:

“( ) organ procurement organization vehicles transporting human organs, human tissue, or medical personnel for the purpose of organ recovery or transplantation in a situation involving an imminent health risk; provided, a driver of such a vehicle must possess a valid driver’s license issued by South Carolina or the state in which the driver resides, must maintain requisite motor vehicle insurance coverage, and, before driving such a vehicle, must successfully complete a nationally accredited safety driving course that is specific for emergency vehicles or includes training on the operation of emergency vehicles. A driver’s license is not valid if it is expired, suspended, or revoked.” /

Renumber sections to conform.

Amend title to conform.

MERITA A. ALLISON for Committee.

**STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT**

**Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

**Introduced on January 9, 2018**

**State Expenditure**

This bill adds organ procurement organization vehicles to the list of authorized emergency vehicles in Section 56-5-170(A). Organ procurement organization vehicles are defined as vehicles operated by organizations that perform or coordinate the procurement, preservation, and transport of organs and maintain systems for locating prospective recipients for available organs. This allows these vehicles to display blue or red lights, which includes light bars and smaller lights such as dash, deck, or visor lights.

DMV indicates that adding procurement organization vehicles to the current list of authorized emergency vehicles can be conducted in the normal course of agency business. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact on the general fund, other funds, or federal funds.

**State Reve**n**ue**

Pursuant to Section 56-3-120, authorized emergency vehicles are exempt from registration and licensing requirements. However, this bill does not modify Section 56-3-20 to include organ procurement organization vehicles as emergency vehicles. For this analysis, we assume that organ procurement organization vehicles are currently paying either the $2 permanent license plate fee for state or political subdivision vehicles or the regular biennial fee, which is based upon the type and weight of the vehicle. If the bill’s intent is to exempt organ procurement vehicles from registration and licensing requirements, revenue allocated to the Infrastructure Maintenance Fund of DOT and the State Transportation Infrastructure Bank could be reduced.

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director

Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 56-5-170(A) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES, TO ADD ORGAN PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATION VEHICLES TO THE DEFINITION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 56-5-170(A) of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately numbered item to read:

“( ) organ procurement organization vehicles, which means vehicles operated by organizations that perform or coordinate the procurement, preservation, and transport of organs and maintain systems for locating prospective recipients for available organs.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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