

SCS SB 788 -- EMERGENCY VEHICLES

SPONSOR: Childers (Goodman)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 16 to 0.

Current law exempts emergency personnel from commercial driver's license requirements when driving a vehicle in an emergency. This substitute expands that exemption to include when driving the emergency vehicle in other functions such as parades and special events or for maintenance and repair service.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that currently a member of a volunteer fire department can't drive the fire truck in a parade without obtaining a commercial driver's license. The bill will allow them to drive the emergency vehicle in a parade or to a repair shop.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Childers.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Richard Smreker, Senior Legislative Analyst