

March 1, 1957.  
Motor Vehicles, Commerce  
and Trade.

**House File 461**  
By JOHNS, CARSON, MILROY.

Passed House, Date 4-15 Passed Senate, Date.....  
Vote: Ayes 50 Nays 14 Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....  
Approved.....

## A BILL FOR

An Act to amend chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code 1954,  
relating to the equipment of motor vehicles with bumpers  
or devices serving similar purposes.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

- 1 Section 1. Chapter three hundred twenty-one (321),
- 2 Code 1954, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following:
- 3 "Every motor vehicle, except truck-tractors, pole trailers,
- 4 trucks with hydraulic hoist, and vehicles engaged in driveaway-
- 5 towaway operations, the date of manufacture of which is subsequent
- 6 to December 31, 1952, which is so constructed that the body or
- 7 the chassis assembly if without a body has a clearance at the
- 8 rear end of more than 30 inches from the ground when empty, shall
- 9 be provided with bumpers or devices serving similar purposes
- 10 which shall be so constructed and located that:
- 11 1. The clearance between the effective bottom of the
- 12 bumpers or devices and the ground shall not exceed 30 inches
- 13 with the vehicle empty.
- 14 2. The maximum distance between the closest points between
- 15 bumpers, or devices if more than one is used, shall not exceed
- 16 24 inches.
- 17 3. The maximum transverse distance from the widest part
- 18 of the motor vehicle at the rear to the bumper or device shall
- 19 not exceed 18 inches.
- 20 4. The bumpers or devices shall be located not more than

21 24 inches forward of the extreme rear of the vehicle.  
22 5. The bumpers or devices shall be substantially constructed  
23 and firmly attached.  
24 Motor vehicles constructed and maintained so that the body,  
25 chassis, or other parts of the vehicle afford the rear-end  
26 protection contemplated shall be deemed to be in compliance with  
27 this section."

EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 461

This bill will bring the State of Iowa up-to-date on rules and regulations governing the safety of operation and equipment of common, contract and carrier by motor vehicle. This will comply with regulations set up by the Interstate Commerce Commission. There are many serious accidents and fatalities caused by automobiles running underneath the rear ends of trucks. This will not prevent accidents, but it should be an added safety factor.

---

HOUSE FILE 461

- 1 Amend House File 461, Section one (1), by adding a new
- 2 subsection as follows:
- 3 "6. This act will become effective July 1, 1958."

Offered  
April 15, 1957.

JOHNS of Tama.

---

HOUSE FILE 461

- 1 Amend House File 461, Section one (1), line six (6),
- 2 by striking the figure "1952" and inserting in lieu thereof
- 3 the figure "1957".

Offered and adopted  
April 15, 1957.

*Substitute to John's*  
GOODE of Davis.