

UNIFORM VEHICLE LAWS SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
AND THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Report to the Members of the
Second Session of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly
Meeting in the Year 1974

FINAL REPORT
OF THE
UNIFORM VEHICLE LAWS SUBCOMMITTEE

The Uniform Vehicle Laws Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and the House Committee on Judiciary and Law Enforcement was created by the Legislative Council pursuant to a recommendation by the Legislative Council Studies Committee on August 15, 1973. The recommendation by the Studies Committee called for the creation of a six-member subcommittee for the purpose of conducting a comparison study of the Iowa motor vehicle laws and the Uniform Vehicle Code.

The membership of the Uniform Vehicle Laws Subcommittee as appointed by the appropriate chairmen of the Judiciary Standing Committees is as follows:

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Senator E. Kevin Kelly
Senator George R. Kinley
Senator C. Joseph Coleman

House Committee on Judiciary and Law Enforcement

Representative Donald V. Doyle
Representative James C. West
Representative Scott D. Newhard

Pursuant to the Highway Safety Act of 1966, the United States Department of Transportation provides states with funds to be used for highway safety purposes. In conjunction with the grants, the Secretary of Transportation has issued a series of eighteen highway safety standards which states must attempt to meet. One of the eighteen standards is the uniformity of traffic codes and laws among the states. Iowa is ranked fortieth among all states in compliance with the traffic laws of the Uniform Vehicle Code. This area is subject to review by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration during Iowa's implementation of its required comprehensive plan of current and proposed highway safety activities adopted pursuant to the Highway Safety Act of 1966.

Several interim committees and subcommittees were appointed to consider various aspects of the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration requirements and recommendations and the Uniform Vehicle Laws Subcommittee was appointed to compare the Uniform Vehicle Code with Iowa's motor vehicle laws and to make recommendations for revising Iowa law as may best secure conformity with the Uniform Code. An additional goal of the Subcommittee is to reorganize and simplify chapter 321 of the Iowa Code to make Iowa's motor vehicle laws easier to find, understand, and use by persons in state government and by members of the public.

The Subcommittee is using a comparison study of the Uniform Vehicle Code with Iowa law prepared in 1971 by Professor Alan Vestal of the University of Iowa College of Law in conjunction with

the Department of Public Safety and Office of the Attorney General. The Department of Public Safety has contracted with Mr. John F. Dwyer as consultant to the Subcommittee to bring the study up to date, attend all Subcommittee meetings, perform Subcommittee research and prepare Subcommittee bill draft recommendations as directed.

The Subcommittee held its first meeting November 7, 1973 at which time Senator E. Kevin Kelly and Representative Donald V. Doyle were elected co-chairmen. The Subcommittee determined to proceed with a chapter by chapter consideration of the comparison study making recommendations and decisions by majority vote and on a tentative basis, leaving all issues subject to reconsideration at any time. Mr. Robert F. Tyson, the Governor's Highway Safety Representative, attended the initial meeting and presented a statement along with further information concerning the state's plan and obligations under the Highway Safety Act of 1966. All meetings of the Subcommittee have been attended by experts provided by the Department of Public Safety and a Representative of the Governor's office, Mr. Lance Faust, Director of the Iowa Highway Safety Program.

The Subcommittee has held a total of four meetings and has completed deliberations on five chapters of the study. No meetings of the Subcommittee have been scheduled during the Second Session of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly and meetings will resume when the legislature adjourns. Mr. Dwyer will be preparing a rough draft of the Subcommittee's work to date during the legislative session in addition to preparing data and research pursuant to Subcommittee decisions during its four meetings. This material will be ready for the Subcommittee when it resumes its schedule.