

FEB 4 1999

TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE FILE  
BY DIX

206

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act prohibiting reading while driving a vehicle and providing  
2 a penalty.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 206

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 321.363A READING WHILE DRIVING.

2 1. A person driving a vehicle shall not read any reading  
3 material while driving. As used in this section, "reading  
4 material" includes a book, magazine, newspaper, and other  
5 written material, whether such material is in a printed or  
6 visual media format. "Reading material" does not include a  
7 map, written driving or address directions, or any written or  
8 visual media which is not located within the passenger  
9 compartment of the vehicle.

10 2. A person who violates this section is guilty of a  
11 simple misdemeanor punishable as a scheduled violation under  
12 section 805.8, subsection 2, paragraph "ai".

13 Sec. 2. Section 805.8, subsection 2, Code 1999, is amended  
14 by adding the following new paragraph:

15 NEW PARAGRAPH. ai. For violations of section 321.363A,  
16 prohibiting reading while driving a vehicle, the scheduled  
17 fine is one hundred dollars.

18 EXPLANATION

19 This bill creates new Code section 321.363A, prohibiting a  
20 person driving a vehicle from reading reading material while  
21 driving. The bill defines "reading material" to include  
22 books, magazines, newspapers, and other written material,  
23 whether such material is in a printed or visual media format.  
24 "Reading material" does not include maps, written driving or  
25 address directions, or any written or visual media which is  
26 not located within the passenger compartment of the vehicle.

27 A person who violates the provisions of the bill is guilty  
28 of a simple misdemeanor, punishable by a scheduled fine of  
29 \$100 pursuant to Code section 805.8.

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**HOUSE FILE 206  
FISCAL NOTE**

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A fiscal note for **House File 206** is hereby submitted pursuant to Joint Rule 17. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.

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House File 206 makes it unlawful to read books, magazines, newspapers, and other written materials while driving a motor vehicle. Written materials as defined in the Bill do not include maps, written driving or address directions, or any written or visual media not located within the passenger compartment of the vehicle. A person who violates the provisions of this Bill is guilty of a simple misdemeanor, which is punishable by a scheduled fine of \$100.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The fiscal effect of HF 206 cannot be determined due to insufficient information. However, HF 206 is not expected to have a significant fiscal effect on State or local governments. The enforcement of the provisions of this Bill will be incorporated into the current duties of peace officers and will not result in a significant incremental cost to law enforcement.

**SOURCE**

Department of Public Safety

(LSB 1860hh, DLR)

FILED FEBRUARY 15, 1999

BY DENNIS PROUTY, FISCAL DIRECTOR