

Welter, Ch  
Heaton  
Huser

HSB 685

TRANSPORTATION

Success

HOUSE FILE 02479  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON WELTER)

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the use of blue lights on authorized emergency  
2 vehicles.

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

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1 Section 1. Section 321.324, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code  
2 1999, is amended to read as follows:

3 Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency  
4 vehicle with any lamp or device displaying a red light~~, or an~~  
5 ~~authorized emergency vehicle of a fire department displaying a~~  
6 or blue light, or when the driver is giving audible signal by  
7 siren, exhaust whistle, or bell, the driver of every other  
8 vehicle shall yield the right of way and shall immediately  
9 drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to,  
10 the right hand edge or curb of the highway clear of any  
11 intersection and shall stop and remain in such position until  
12 the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when  
13 otherwise directed by a police officer. For the purposes of  
14 this section, "red light" or "blue light" means a light or  
15 lighting device that, when illuminated, will exhibit a solid  
16 flashing or strobing red or blue light.

17 Sec. 2. Section 321.423, subsection 3, Code 1999, is  
18 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

19 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. An authorized emergency vehicle, other  
20 than a vehicle described in paragraph "a" or "b", if the blue  
21 light is positioned on the passenger side of the vehicle and  
22 is used in conjunction with a red light positioned on the  
23 driver side of the vehicle.

24 Sec. 3. Section 321.423, subsection 3, Code 1999, is  
25 amended by adding the following new unnumbered paragraph:

26 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. A person shall not use only a  
27 blue light on a vehicle unless the vehicle meets the  
28 requirements of paragraph "a" or "b".

29 EXPLANATION

30 This bill allows a blue light to be used on an authorized  
31 emergency vehicle, other than a fire department vehicle or a  
32 vehicle owned by a member of a fire department and authorized  
33 by the chief of the fire department, if the blue light is on  
34 the passenger side of the vehicle and is used in conjunction  
35 with a red light positioned on the driver side of the vehicle.

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1 The bill prohibits a person from using only a blue light on a  
2 vehicle unless the vehicle is a fire department vehicle or is  
3 owned by a member of a fire department and authorized by the  
4 chief of the fire department.

5 Currently, the use of any blue light on a vehicle is  
6 reserved solely for fire department vehicles and vehicles  
7 owned by fire department members and authorized by the chief  
8 of the fire department. A violation of this provision is a  
9 scheduled violation punishable by a scheduled fine of \$20.

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*Substituted for by SF 2156*

3-27-00

*(P. 1005)*

FEB 28 2000

Place On Calendar

HOUSE FILE **2479**

BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**WITHDRAWN**

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 685)

3-27-00  
*(P. 1006)*

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

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*HF-2479*

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