

# House Study Bill 685

## Bill Text

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1 1 Section 1. Section [321.324](#), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code  
1 2 1999, is amended to read as follows:  
1 3 Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency  
1 4 vehicle with any lamp or device displaying a red light

~~, or an~~

1 5

~~authorized emergency vehicle of a fire department displaying a~~

1 6 or blue light, or when the driver is giving audible signal by  
1 7 siren, exhaust whistle, or bell, the driver of every other  
1 8 vehicle shall yield the right of way and shall immediately  
1 9 drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to,  
1 10 the right hand edge or curb of the highway clear of any  
1 11 intersection and shall stop and remain in such position until  
1 12 the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when  
1 13 otherwise directed by a police officer. For the purposes of  
1 14 this section, "red light" or "blue light" means a light or  
1 15 lighting device that, when illuminated, will exhibit a solid  
1 16 flashing or strobing red or blue light.

1 17 Sec. 2. Section [321.423](#), subsection 3, Code 1999, is  
1 18 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

1 19 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. An authorized emergency vehicle, other  
1 20 than a vehicle described in paragraph "a" or "b", if the blue  
1 21 light is positioned on the passenger side of the vehicle and  
1 22 is used in conjunction with a red light positioned on the  
1 23 driver side of the vehicle.

1 24 Sec. 3. Section [321.423](#), subsection 3, Code 1999, is  
1 25 amended by adding the following new unnumbered paragraph:

1 26 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. A person shall not use only a  
1 27 blue light on a vehicle unless the vehicle meets the  
1 28 requirements of paragraph "a" or "b".

1 29 EXPLANATION

1 30 This bill allows a blue light to be used on an authorized  
1 31 emergency vehicle, other than a fire department vehicle or a  
1 32 vehicle owned by a member of a fire department and authorized  
1 33 by the chief of the fire department, if the blue light is on  
1 34 the passenger side of the vehicle and is used in conjunction  
1 35 with a red light positioned on the driver side of the vehicle.

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

2 5 Currently, the use of any blue light on a vehicle is  
2 6 reserved solely for fire department vehicles and vehicles  
2 7 owned by fire department members and authorized by the chief  
2 8 of the fire department. A violation of this provision is a  
2 9 scheduled violation punishable by a scheduled fine of \$20.

2 10 LSB 6522HC 78

2 11 nh/cls/14