

Senate File 68 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY HECKROTH

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act prohibiting the use of certain motor vehicle lights under
2 fair weather conditions during daylight hours and providing a
3 penalty.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
5 TLSB 1470SS 83
6 dea/nh/5

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 321.416 LIGHTING RESTRICTIONS
1 2 DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS AND FAIR WEATHER CONDITIONS.
1 3 1. Except during the times specified in section 321.384,
1 4 subsection 1, a person operating a motor vehicle on a highway
1 5 shall not use the uppermost distribution of light, or
1 6 composite beam specified in section 321.409, subsection 1, an
1 7 auxiliary lamp, spot lamp, or any other lamp on the front of
1 8 the vehicle other than a lamp projecting the lowermost
1 9 distribution of light, or composite beam, specified in section
1 10 321.409, subsection 2, or a directional signal device
1 11 specified in section 321.317.
1 12 2. A person convicted of a violation of this section is
1 13 guilty of a simple misdemeanor punishable as a scheduled
1 14 violation under section 805.8A, subsection 3, paragraph "d".
1 15 Sec. 2. Section 805.8A, subsection 3, paragraph d, Code
1 16 2009, is amended to read as follows:
1 17 d. For violations of sections 321.383, 321.384, 321.385,
1 18 321.398, 321.402, 321.403, 321.404, 321.409, 321.415, 321.416,
1 19 321.419, 321.420, 321.421, 321.423, and 321.433, the scheduled
1 20 fine is twenty dollars.

EXPLANATION

1 21 This bill limits the use of certain front-mounted lights on
1 22 motor vehicles to those times of day when the use of head
1 23 lamps is required. Currently, a driver must use head lamps
1 24 during the period from sunset to sunrise and at other times
1 25 when conditions such as fog, snow, sleet, or rain provide
1 26 insufficient lighting to render clearly discernable persons
1 27 and vehicles on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.
1 28 Under the bill, the use of high-beam headlamps, auxiliary
1 29 lamps, spot lamps, or any lamp of greater intensity than the
1 30 vehicle's low-beam headlamps is prohibited from sunrise to
1 31 sunset under fair weather conditions.
1 32 A violation is a simple misdemeanor punishable by a
1 33 scheduled fine of \$20. This is the same penalty that
1 34 currently applies for similar vehicle lighting violations.
2 1 LSB 1470SS 83
2 2 dea/nh/5