

Senate File 200 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 200
BY BEALL and McCOY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the installation of switch targets at certain
2 locations along railroad tracks and providing a penalty.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 327F.15 Switch targets.

2 1. On or before June 30, 2013, the owner or operator of
3 a railroad track located in this state shall install switch
4 targets along main line tracks at locations lacking a signal
5 system.

6 a. The targets shall measure twenty-four inches by
7 twenty-four inches, shall be reflectorized, and shall be
8 maintained so as to be visible for a distance of two thousand
9 feet when illuminated by bright headlights.

10 b. The targets shall be designed to display green for
11 movement along the main line and red for movement off the main
12 line.

13 2. The department of transportation shall enforce the
14 provisions of this section.

15 3. Failure to install targets or failure to properly
16 maintain targets is a schedule three violation. Each day that
17 a violation continues constitutes a separate violation.

18 EXPLANATION

19 This bill requires the owner or operator of a railroad track
20 to install switch targets along main line tracks at locations
21 that do not have a signal system (known as "dark territory").
22 The bill specifies that the targets must be 24 inches by 24
23 inches square, with a reflective surface visible for a distance
24 of 2,000 feet under bright headlights. The targets must signal
25 green when the switch is set to the main line, and red for
26 movement off the main line.

27 The bill establishes a deadline of June 30, 2013, for
28 installation of the switch targets. The department of
29 transportation is required to enforce the new provisions.
30 Failure to install or properly maintain the targets is a
31 schedule three violation, which may result in a penalty of
32 not less than \$500 and not more than \$1,000 for each day the
33 violation continues.