

**Senate File 363 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 363

BY BACON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the use of a flashing blue light on certain  
2 funeral escort vehicles and making a penalty applicable.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.324A, subsection 1, Code 2011, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. For purposes of this section, "*funeral procession*" means  
4 a procession of motor vehicles accompanying the body of a  
5 deceased person during daylight hours, which is being escorted  
6 by a vehicle continually displaying its emergency signal  
7 lamps flashing simultaneously and using lighted headlamps and  
8 identifying flags, ~~or an escort~~ a vehicle displaying a flashing  
9 or revolving red and amber light visible to pedestrians in all  
10 directions, or a funeral escort vehicle with a permit issued  
11 under section 321.451A displaying a flashing blue light, and  
12 keeping all other motor vehicles with lighted headlamps in  
13 close formation.

14 Sec. 2. Section 321.423, subsection 3, Code 2011, is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 3. *Blue light.*

17 a. A blue light shall not be used on any vehicle except for  
18 the following:

19 (1) A vehicle owned or exclusively operated by a fire  
20 department.

21 (2) A vehicle authorized by the chief of the fire department  
22 if the vehicle is owned by a member of the fire department,  
23 the request for authorization is made by the member on forms  
24 provided by the department, and necessity for authorization is  
25 demonstrated in the request.

26 (3) An authorized emergency vehicle, other than a vehicle  
27 described in paragraph "a", subparagraph (1) or (2), if the blue  
28 light is positioned on the passenger side of the vehicle and is  
29 used in conjunction with a red light positioned on the driver  
30 side of the vehicle.

31 (4) A funeral escort vehicle with a permit issued under  
32 section 321.451A, when the vehicle is leading a funeral  
33 procession as defined in section 321.324A to a cemetery or  
34 other place for the burial, entombment, or interment of human  
35 remains.



1 showing of necessity, the department may issue a permit for the  
2 funeral escort vehicle. The permit must be carried with the  
3 vehicle at all times and must be surrendered to the department  
4 when the vehicle is no longer being used as a funeral escort  
5 vehicle. The permit may be revoked by the department upon a  
6 showing of abuse.

7 The bill authorizes the use of a flashing blue light on  
8 a funeral escort vehicle with a permit when the vehicle is  
9 leading a funeral procession to a cemetery or other place for  
10 the burial, entombment, or interment of human remains.

11 Pursuant to current law, a violation of provisions relating  
12 to the use of flashing lights on a vehicle is a simple  
13 misdemeanor, punishable by a scheduled fine of \$30.