

**House File 2229 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2229

BY HEATON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to lighting requirements for towed machinery or  
2 equipment, and making penalties applicable.

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

1 Section 1. Section 321.423, subsection 2, paragraph h, Code  
2 2014, is amended to read as follows:

3 *h.* A flashing amber light is permitted on a towing or  
4 recovery vehicle, a utility maintenance vehicle, a municipal  
5 maintenance vehicle, a highway maintenance vehicle, or a  
6 vehicle operated in accordance with subsection 6, paragraph  
7 "a", or section 321.398 or 321.453.

8 Sec. 2. Section 321.423, subsection 2, Code 2014, is amended  
9 by adding the following new paragraph:

10 NEW PARAGRAPH. *k.* A flashing red light is permitted on  
11 towed machinery or equipment in accordance with subsection 6,  
12 paragraph "b".

13 Sec. 3. Section 321.423, subsection 6, Code 2014, is amended  
14 to read as follows:

15 6. *Amber flashing light — flashing red light.*

16 a. A farm tractor, farm tractor with towed equipment,  
17 self-propelled implement of husbandry, road construction or  
18 maintenance vehicle, road grader, or other vehicle principally  
19 designed for use off the highway which, when operated on  
20 a primary or secondary road, is operated at a speed of  
21 thirty-five miles an hour or less, shall be equipped with and  
22 display an amber flashing light visible from the rear at any  
23 time from sunset to sunrise. If the amber flashing light is  
24 obstructed by the towed equipment, the towed equipment shall  
25 also be equipped with and display an amber flashing light as  
26 required under this subsection. All vehicles specified in  
27 this subsection which are manufactured for sale or sold in  
28 this state shall be equipped with an amber flashing light  
29 in accordance with the standards of the American society of  
30 agricultural engineers.

31 b. In addition to the requirements of paragraph "a",  
32 machinery or equipment towed by a farm tractor or other motor  
33 vehicle at any time from sunset to sunrise shall display a  
34 flashing red light attached at the rearmost position on the  
35 towed machinery or equipment and visible from a distance of

1 five hundred feet to the rear.

2 EXPLANATION

3 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
4 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

5 Under current law, a farm tractor with towed equipment is  
6 required to be equipped with and display an amber flashing  
7 light visible from the rear at any time from sunset to sunrise.  
8 If the amber flashing light is obstructed by the towed  
9 equipment, the towed equipment must also be equipped with and  
10 display an amber flashing light. In addition to those current  
11 requirements, this bill requires that machinery or equipment  
12 towed by a farm tractor or other motor vehicle at any time from  
13 sunset to sunrise must display a flashing red light visible  
14 from 500 feet to the rear. The flashing red light must be  
15 attached at the rearmost position on the towed machinery or  
16 equipment.

17 A violation of vehicle lighting requirements is punishable  
18 by a scheduled fine of \$30.