

**Senate Study Bill 3118 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON BOWMAN)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to driving on a roadway laned for traffic, and  
2 making penalties applicable.

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

1 Section 1. Section 321.306, Code 2014, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 **321.306 Roadways laned for traffic.**

4 Whenever any roadway has been divided into three or more  
5 clearly marked lanes for traffic, the following rules in  
6 addition to all others consistent ~~herewith~~ with this chapter  
7 shall apply:

8 1. A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as ~~practical~~  
9 practicable entirely within a single lane ~~and~~.

10 2. A vehicle shall not be moved from ~~such~~ a lane until the  
11 driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made  
12 with safety.

13 ~~2.~~ 3. If a roadway is divided into three lanes, a vehicle  
14 shall not be driven in the center lane except as follows:

15 a. When overtaking and passing another vehicle where the  
16 roadway is clearly visible and ~~such~~ the center lane is clear of  
17 traffic within a safe distance.

18 b. In preparation for a left turn or where ~~such~~ the center  
19 lane is at the time allocated exclusively to traffic moving in  
20 the direction the vehicle is proceeding and is signposted to  
21 give notice of such allocation.

22 ~~3.~~ 4. Official signs may be erected directing slow-moving  
23 traffic to use a designated lane or allocating specified lanes  
24 to traffic moving in the same direction and drivers of vehicles  
25 shall obey the directions of every such sign.

26 ~~4.~~ 5. Vehicles moving in a lane designated for slow-moving  
27 traffic shall yield the right-of-way to vehicles moving in the  
28 same direction in a lane not so designated when such lanes  
29 merge to form a single lane.

30 ~~5.~~ 6. A portion of a highway provided with a lane for  
31 slow-moving vehicles does not become a roadway marked for three  
32 lanes of traffic.

33

EXPLANATION

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

1 This bill amends Code section 321.306, which contains  
2 requirements for driving a vehicle on roadways laned for  
3 traffic. Currently, the requirement to drive as nearly as  
4 practical entirely within a single lane is combined with the  
5 requirement not to move from the lane until the driver has  
6 first ascertained that the movement can be made safely. The  
7 bill separates those two requirements and makes semantic  
8 changes to the language of the Code section.

9 Pursuant to current law, a violation of the requirements of  
10 Code section 321.306 is a simple misdemeanor, punishable by a  
11 scheduled fine of \$100. A violation that causes serious injury  
12 to or the death of a person may be subject to an additional fine  
13 and driver's license suspension.