

Senate File 18 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 18

BY D. JOHNSON

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to lighted lamps on bicycles and bicycle
2 riders, and including effective date provisions.

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

1 Section 1. Section 321.385A, Code 2017, is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 **321.385A Citation for unlighted headlamp, rear lamp, bicycle**
4 **or rider lamp, or rear registration plate light.**

5 1. *a.* A citation issued for failure to have headlamps
6 as required under [section 321.385](#) shall first provide for a
7 ~~seventy-two-hour~~ seventy-two-hour period within which the
8 person charged with the violation shall replace or repair the
9 headlamp.

10 *b.* A citation issued for failure to have rear lamps as
11 required under [section 321.387](#) or a rear registration plate
12 light as required under [section 321.388](#) shall first provide for
13 a ~~seventy-two-hour~~ seventy-two-hour period within which the
14 person charged with the violation shall replace or repair the
15 lamps or light.

16 *c.* A citation issued for failure to have a front lamp or
17 rear lamp on a bicycle or on a bicycle rider as required under
18 section 321.397 shall first provide for a seventy-two-hour
19 period within which the person charged with the violation shall
20 replace or repair the lamp or lamps.

21 2. If the person complies with the directive to replace
22 or repair the headlamp, rear lamps, bicycle or rider lamp,
23 or rear registration plate light within the allotted time
24 period, the citation shall be expunged. If the person fails to
25 comply within the allotted time period, the citation shall be
26 processed in the same manner as other citations.

27 3. A citation issued under [this section](#) shall include
28 a written notice of replacement or repair which shall
29 indicate the date of replacement or repair and the manner in
30 which the replacement or repair occurred and which shall be
31 returned to the issuing authority within the ~~seventy-two-hour~~
32 seventy-two-hour time period.

33 Sec. 2. Section 321.397, Code 2017, is amended to read as
34 follows:

35 **321.397 Lamps on bicycles and bicycle riders.**

1 ~~Every~~ At the times specified in section 321.384, a bicycle or
2 its rider shall be equipped with a lamp on the front exhibiting
3 a white light, ~~at the times specified in section 321.384,~~
4 visible from a distance of at least three hundred feet to
5 the front and with a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light
6 visible from a distance of three hundred feet to the rear,
7 ~~except that a red reflector may be used in lieu of a rear light.~~
8 A peace officer riding a police bicycle is not required to use
9 either front or rear lamps if duty so requires.

10 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect January 1,
11 2018.

12 EXPLANATION

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

15 Current law requires a bicycle to have a front lighted lamp
16 and either a rear lighted lamp or a rear reflector at any time
17 from sunset to sunrise, and at such other times when conditions
18 such as fog, snow, sleet, or rain provide insufficient lighting
19 to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles on the
20 highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead.

21 This bill requires a bicycle or its rider to have a front
22 and rear lighted lamp during the stated periods of time, and
23 does not allow a bicycle or its rider to equip a rear reflector
24 in lieu of the rear lighted lamp. The scheduled fine for
25 violating this provision is \$25. However, the bill provides
26 that a citation issued for failure to have a front lamp or rear
27 lamp on a bicycle or on a bicycle rider must first provide
28 for a 72-hour period within which the person charged with the
29 violation shall replace or repair the lamp. If the person
30 complies with the directive to replace or repair the bicycle or
31 rider lamp, the citation must be expunged.

32 The bill takes effect January 1, 2018.