

**Senate File 2067 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2067

BY SHIPLEY

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to lighted headlamps on motor vehicles, and  
2 making penalties applicable.

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

1 Section 1. Section 321.384, Code 2018, is amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 **321.384 When lighted lamps required.**

4 1. Every motor vehicle ~~upon~~ operated on a highway within the  
5 state, at any time from sunset to sunrise, and ~~at such other~~  
6 ~~times when conditions such as~~ during any period of fog, snow,  
7 sleet, or rain ~~provide insufficient lighting to render clearly~~  
8 ~~discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance~~  
9 ~~of five hundred feet ahead~~, shall display lighted headlamps as  
10 provided in [section 321.415](#), subject to exceptions provided in  
11 this chapter with respect to parked vehicles as ~~hereinafter~~  
12 ~~stated~~.

13 2. ~~Whenever~~ Any requirement is ~~hereinafter declared as to~~  
14 provided in this chapter regarding the distance from which  
15 certain lamps and devices shall render objects visible or  
16 within which such lamps or devices shall be visible, ~~said~~  
17 ~~provisions~~ shall apply during the times stated in subsection  
18 1 of ~~this section~~ upon a straight level unlighted highway  
19 under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different time or  
20 condition is expressly stated.

21 EXPLANATION

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

24 Under current law, a motor vehicle is required to display  
25 lighted headlamps at any time from sunset to sunrise, and at  
26 such other times when conditions such as fog, snow, sleet,  
27 or rain provide insufficient lighting to render clearly  
28 discernible persons and vehicles on the highway at a distance  
29 of 500 feet ahead. This bill amends the provision to require  
30 motor vehicles to display lighted headlamps at any time from  
31 sunset to sunrise, and during any period of fog, snow, sleet,  
32 or rain. A violation of the provision is punishable by a  
33 scheduled fine of \$30.

34 The following Code sections contain provisions which are  
35 associated with the times when headlamps are required under

1 Code section 321.384 and are therefore affected indirectly by  
2 the bill:

3 Code section 321.235A, which requires the use of a headlight  
4 and a rear reflector on electric personal assistive mobility  
5 devices.

6 Code section 321.392, which requires the use of certain  
7 lighting devices and reflectors on motor trucks.

8 Code section 321.394, which requires a red light to be  
9 displayed on projecting loads on motor vehicles.

10 Code section 321.395, which requires lighting on vehicles  
11 stopped on an unlighted roadway or shoulder.

12 Code sections 321.397, 321.398, and 321.418, which describe  
13 lighting requirements for bicycles, animal-drawn vehicles, and  
14 slow-moving vehicles.

15 Code section 321.405, which requires self-illumination of  
16 mechanical signal devices.

17 Code sections 321.415 and 321.419, which provide  
18 specifications for headlamps on motor vehicles.