

Senate Study Bill 1179 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON KAPUCIAN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to distance requirements for electronically
2 coordinated motor vehicles following in a sequence.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.308, Code 2019, is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 **321.308 Motor trucks and towed vehicles — distance**
4 **requirements.**

5 The driver of any motor truck, or of a motor vehicle drawing
6 another vehicle, when traveling upon a roadway, outside of a
7 business or residence district shall not follow within three
8 hundred feet of another motor truck, or of a motor vehicle
9 drawing another vehicle. ~~The provisions of this~~ This section
10 shall not be construed to prevent overtaking and passing nor
11 shall the same. This section does not apply upon any lane
12 specially designated for use by motor trucks, or to any motor
13 vehicle following another motor vehicle in a sequence of two
14 vehicles using technology and equipment that electronically
15 coordinates the speed and brakes of the following vehicle with
16 the speed and brakes of the lead vehicle.

17 EXPLANATION

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

20 Under current law, the driver of a motor truck or motor
21 vehicle drawing another vehicle, when traveling upon a roadway
22 outside of a business or residence district, is prohibited
23 from following within 300 feet of another motor truck or motor
24 vehicle drawing another vehicle. This bill exempts from the
25 provision any motor vehicle following another motor vehicle
26 in a sequence of two vehicles using technology and equipment
27 that electronically coordinates the speed and brakes of
28 the following vehicle with the speed and brakes of the lead
29 vehicle. Such vehicles are still subject to Code section
30 321.307, which prohibits the driver of a motor vehicle from
31 following another vehicle more closely than is reasonable and
32 prudent, having due regard for the speed of such vehicles and
33 the traffic upon and the condition of the highway.

34 A violation of Code section 321.307 or 321.308 is punishable
35 by a scheduled fine of \$100. The violations are also subject

S.F. _____

1 to additional penalties under Code section 321.482A if a
2 violation causes serious injury or death. For a violation
3 causing serious injury, the additional penalties include a fine
4 of \$500 or suspension of the violator's driver's license and
5 operating privileges for not more than 90 days, or both. For
6 a violation causing death, the additional penalties include a
7 fine of \$1,000 or suspension of the violator's driver's license
8 or operating privileges for not more than 180 days, or both.