

Senate File 381 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 381

BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 24)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act regarding driving privileges of persons issued a special
2 minor's driver's license, and making penalties applicable.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.194, subsection 2, paragraph a,
2 subparagraph (1), subparagraph division (b), Code 2023, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (b) Over the most direct and accessible route between
5 the licensee's residence or school of enrollment and a site,
6 facility, or school that is not the licensee's school of
7 enrollment, for the purpose of participating in extracurricular
8 activities conducted under a sharing agreement with the
9 licensee's school of enrollment or conducted at a site,
10 facility, or school designated by the licensee's school
11 district for the accommodation of the school's extracurricular
12 activities, provided the ~~site, facility, or school is within~~
13 ~~the licensee's school district of enrollment or is within a~~
14 ~~school district contiguous to the licensee's school district of~~
15 enrollment driving distance between the point of origin and the
16 destination is no more than fifty miles.

17 Sec. 2. Section 321.194, subsection 2, paragraph a,
18 subparagraph (3), Code 2023, is amended by striking the
19 subparagraph and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

20 (3) If the licensee is employed, the licensee may operate a
21 motor vehicle during the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. over
22 the most direct and accessible route between the licensee's
23 residence or school of enrollment and the licensee's place
24 of employment, provided the driving distance between the
25 licensee's place of employment and the nearest point on the
26 route on which the licensee is authorized to travel under
27 subparagraph (1), subparagraph division (a), or subparagraph
28 (2), subparagraph division (a), is no more than fifty miles.

29 Sec. 3. Section 321.194, subsection 3, paragraph b, Code
30 2023, is amended to read as follows:

31 b. Upon receipt of a statement of necessity, the department
32 shall issue the driver's license provided the applicant is
33 otherwise eligible for issuance of the license. ~~The fact that~~
34 ~~the applicant resides at a distance less than one mile from the~~
35 ~~applicant's school of enrollment is prima facie evidence of~~

1 ~~the nonexistence of necessity for the issuance of a license.~~
2 ~~However, the distance between the applicant's residence and~~
3 ~~school of enrollment shall not be considered if the applicant~~
4 ~~resides on a farm or is employed for compensation on a farm.~~

5 EXPLANATION

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

8 Under current law, a person issued a special minor's
9 driver's license who attends a public school is allowed to
10 operate a motor vehicle between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and
11 10:00 p.m. to, among other locations, a site, facility, or
12 school that is not the licensee's school of enrollment for
13 certain extracurricular activities if the site, facility, or
14 school is within the licensee's school district of enrollment
15 or is within a school district contiguous to the licensee's
16 school district of enrollment.

17 This bill instead allows the licensee to operate a motor
18 vehicle during such hours to a site, facility, or school
19 that is not the licensee's school of enrollment for certain
20 extracurricular activities provided the driving distance
21 between the point of origin and the destination is no more than
22 50 miles. Licensees who attend a nonpublic school currently
23 operate under a similar 50-mile restriction.

24 Current law also provides that if a licensee resides on a
25 farm or is employed for compensation on a farm in this state,
26 the licensee is authorized to operate a motor vehicle for the
27 purpose of assisting the licensee's parents, guardians, or
28 employers with farm work or in connection with any farm job,
29 employment, or other farm-related work, including traveling to
30 or from the location of the farm work, provided the licensee
31 operates the vehicle over the most direct and accessible route
32 between the point of origin and the destination and the driving
33 distance between the point of origin and the destination is no
34 more than 50 miles.

35 The bill strikes the farm work authorization and instead

1 authorizes a licensee who is employed to operate a motor
2 vehicle during the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. over
3 the most direct and accessible route between the licensee's
4 residence or school of enrollment and the licensee's place
5 of employment, provided the driving distance between the
6 licensee's place of employment and the nearest point on the
7 route on which the licensee is otherwise authorized to travel
8 is no more than 50 miles.

9 Under current law, an application for a special minor's
10 driver's license must be accompanied by a statement from
11 the applicant's school of enrollment certifying that a need
12 exists for the license. The fact that an applicant resides
13 at a distance less than one mile from the applicant's school
14 of enrollment is prima facie evidence of the nonexistence of
15 necessity for the issuance of the license. The bill strikes
16 the presumption of the nonexistence of necessity for an
17 applicant who lives less than one mile from the applicant's
18 school of enrollment.

19 A violation of Code section 321.194 is punishable by a
20 scheduled fine of \$70.