

House File 173 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 173
BY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 41)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to additional penalties for violations for
2 failing to reduce speed when required or otherwise control a
3 motor vehicle that result in serious injury or death.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Section 321.482A, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
2 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 Notwithstanding section 321.482, a person who is convicted
4 of operating a motor vehicle in violation of section 321.178,
5 subsection 2, paragraph "a", subparagraph (2), section 321.180B,
6 subsection 6, section 321.194, subsection 5, paragraph "d",
7 section 321.256, 321.257, section 321.275, subsection 4, section
8 321.276, 321.288, 321.297, 321.298, 321.299, 321.302, 321.303,
9 321.304, 321.305, 321.306, 321.307, 321.311, 321.319, 321.320,
10 321.321, 321.322, 321.323, 321.324, 321.324A, 321.327, 321.329,
11 321.333, section 321.372, subsection 3, or section 321.449B,
12 causing serious injury to or the death of another person may be
13 subject to the following penalties in addition to the penalty
14 provided for a scheduled violation in section 805.8A or any other
15 penalty provided by law:

16 EXPLANATION

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

19 Under current law, Code section 321.288 requires a person
20 operating a motor vehicle to control the vehicle at all times
21 and reduce the speed of the vehicle to a reasonable and
22 proper rate when approaching a pedestrian walking or an animal
23 being led, ridden, or driven on a highway; when approaching
24 and traversing a crossing, intersection, sharp turn, curve, or
25 steep descent on a highway; when approaching and passing an
26 emergency warning device, emergency vehicle displaying revolving
27 or flashing lights, or slow-moving vehicle displaying reflective
28 devices; and when approaching and passing through a work zone.
29 The scheduled fine for a violation of Code section 321.288 is
30 \$135. Code section 321.482A sets forth additional penalties
31 applicable when a person is convicted of operating a motor
32 vehicle in violation of certain Code sections in Code chapter 321
33 (motor vehicles and law of the road) if such violation causes
34 serious injury to or the death of another person.

35 This bill adds Code section 321.288 to the list of violations

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

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