

**House File 233 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 233  
BY GJERDE

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the manner in which motor vehicles turn at  
2 intersections, and making penalties applicable.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 321.311, subsection 1, Code 2025, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. The driver of a vehicle intending to turn at an  
4 intersection shall ~~do so as follows~~ all of the following, as  
5 applicable:

6 a. Both the approach for a right turn and right turn shall be  
7 made as close as ~~practical~~ practicable to the right-hand curb or  
8 edge of the roadway.

9 b. Approach for a left turn shall be made in that portion of  
10 the right half of the roadway nearest the center line thereof  
11 and, after entering the intersection, the left turn shall be  
12 made so as to depart from the intersection to the right of the  
13 center line and as close as practicable to the center line of the  
14 roadway being entered.

15 c. Approach for a left turn from a two-way street into a  
16 one-way street shall be made in that portion of the right half  
17 of the roadway nearest the center line thereof and by passing to  
18 the right of such center line where it enters the intersection  
19 and, after entering the intersection, the left turn shall be made  
20 so as to depart from the intersection as close as practicable to  
21 the left-hand curb or edge of the street being entered. A

22 d. Approach for a left turn from a one-way street into a  
23 two-way street shall be made by passing as close as practicable  
24 to the left-hand curb or edge of the street and, after entering  
25 the intersection, the left turn shall be made so as to depart  
26 from the intersection to the right of the center line and as  
27 close as practicable to the center line of the street being  
28 entered ~~upon leaving the intersection.~~

29 Sec. 2. Section 321.311, Code 2025, is amended by adding the  
30 following new subsection:

31 NEW SUBSECTION. 1A. The driver of a vehicle making a turn at  
32 an intersection from a laned highway into another laned highway  
33 shall maintain and complete the turn by approaching, entering,  
34 and departing the intersection in the same corresponding lane, as  
35 determined from the right-hand edge of the roadway for a vehicle

1 turning right, and from the left-hand edge of the roadway for a  
2 vehicle turning left.

3 EXPLANATION

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

6 This bill relates to the manner in which motor vehicles turn  
7 at intersections. Under current law, a driver making a left  
8 turn must yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching from  
9 the opposite direction which are within the intersection or so  
10 close thereto as to constitute an immediate hazard, before making  
11 the left turn (Code section 321.320). In addition, the driver  
12 of a vehicle making a left turn is required to depart from the  
13 intersection to the right of the center line of the roadway being  
14 entered (Code section 321.311). The bill requires the driver to  
15 also keep the vehicle as close as practicable to the center line.

16 If the left turn is from a two-way street into a one-way  
17 street, the bill requires the driver, after entering the  
18 intersection, to depart from the intersection as close as  
19 practicable to the left-hand curb or edge of the street being  
20 entered. If the left turn is from a one-way street into a  
21 two-way street, the bill requires the driver to make the turn  
22 as close as practicable to the left-hand curb or edge of the  
23 street and, after entering the intersection, to depart from the  
24 intersection as close as practicable to the center line of the  
25 street being entered.

26 The bill requires a driver making a turn at an intersection  
27 from a laned highway into another laned highway to maintain and  
28 complete the turn by approaching, entering, and departing the  
29 intersection in the same corresponding lane. A "laned highway"  
30 is a highway the roadway of which is divided into three or more  
31 clearly marked lanes for vehicular traffic.

32 A violation of Code section 321.311 is punishable by a  
33 scheduled fine of \$135.