

**House File 528 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 528  
BY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 231)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to reckless driving and excessive speed, and  
2 making penalties applicable.

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

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1 Section 1. Section 321.277, subsection 1, Code 2025, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. A person who drives any a vehicle in such manner as to  
4 indicate either a willful or a wanton disregard for the safety of  
5 persons or property, including but not limited to by exceeding a  
6 speed limit by twenty-five miles per hour or more, is guilty of  
7 reckless driving.

8 EXPLANATION

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

11 Under current law, driving in excess of the speed limit is a  
12 simple misdemeanor punishable by a scheduled fine based on the  
13 excessive speed, ranging from \$30 to \$135 plus \$5 for each mile  
14 per hour (MPH) of excessive speed over 20 MPH over the limit,  
15 with increased fines for violations in road work zones.

16 Also under current law, a person who drives a vehicle in such  
17 manner as to indicate either a willful or a wanton disregard for  
18 the safety of persons or property is guilty of reckless driving,  
19 in violation of Code section 321.277. A person convicted for  
20 "reckless driving" commits a simple misdemeanor. A simple  
21 misdemeanor is punishable by confinement for no more than 30 days  
22 and a fine of at least \$105 but not more than \$855.

23 This bill provides that exceeding the speed limit by 25 MPH or  
24 more is reckless driving.

25 By operation of law, a person who drives recklessly in  
26 violation of Code section 321.277, as amended by the bill,  
27 commits a class "C" felony if the violation unintentionally  
28 causes the death of another, and commits a class "D" felony if  
29 the violation unintentionally causes a serious injury (see Code  
30 section 707.6A — homicide or serious injury by vehicle). Under  
31 current law, Code section 707.6A also applies if a person, other  
32 than a member of a public safety agency, exceeds the posted  
33 speed limit by 25 MPH or more and unintentionally causes death or  
34 serious injury, if the speeding violation is the proximate cause  
35 of the death or injury.

1 A class "C" felony is punishable by confinement for no more  
2 than 10 years and a fine of at least \$1,370 but not more than  
3 \$13,660. A class "D" felony is punishable by confinement for no  
4 more than five years and a fine of at least \$1,025 but not more  
5 than \$10,245.

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