

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 114

Introduced by Craighead, 6.

Read first time January 06, 2017

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Rules of the Road; to amend
2 sections 60-6,220, 60-6,221, and 60-6,222, Reissue Revised Statutes
3 of Nebraska, and section 60-6,219, Revised Statutes Cumulative
4 Supplement, 2016; to change provisions relating to motor vehicle
5 lighting requirements; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the
6 original sections.

7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 60-6,219, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2 2016, is amended to read:

3 60-6,219 (1) Every motor vehicle upon a highway within this state
4 ~~during the period from sunset to sunrise and at any other time when there~~
5 ~~is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons or vehicles~~
6 ~~upon the highway at a distance of five hundred feet ahead~~ shall be
7 equipped with ~~lighted~~ headlights and taillights as respectively required
8 in this section for different classes of vehicles.

9 (2) Every motor vehicle, other than an autocycle, a motorcycle, a
10 road roller, or road machinery, shall be equipped with two or more
11 headlights, at the front of and on opposite sides of the motor vehicle.
12 The headlights shall comply with the requirements and limitations set
13 forth in sections 60-6,221 and 60-6,223.

14 (3) Every motor vehicle and trailer, other than an autocycle, a
15 motorcycle, a road roller, or road machinery, shall be equipped with one
16 or more taillights, at the rear of the motor vehicle or trailer,
17 exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of at least five hundred
18 feet to the rear of such vehicle.

19 (4) Every autocycle or motorcycle shall be equipped with at least
20 one and not more than two headlights and with a taillight exhibiting a
21 red light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the
22 rear of such autocycle or motorcycle. The headlights shall comply with
23 the requirements and limitations set forth in sections 60-6,221 and
24 60-6,223.

25 (5) The requirement in this section as to the distance from which
26 lights must render obstructions visible or within which lights must be
27 visible shall apply ~~during the time stated in this section~~ upon a
28 straight, level, unlighted highway under normal atmospheric conditions.

29 (6) It shall be unlawful for any owner or operator of any motor
30 vehicle to operate such vehicle upon a highway unless:

31 (a) The condition of the lights and electric circuit is such as to

1 give substantially normal light output;

2 (b) Each taillight shows red directly to the rear, the lens covering
3 each taillight is unbroken, each taillight is securely fastened, and the
4 electric circuit is free from grounds or shorts;

5 (c) There is no more than one spotlight except for law enforcement
6 personnel, government employees, and public utility employees;

7 (d) There are no more than two auxiliary driving lights and every
8 such auxiliary light meets the requirements for auxiliary driving lights
9 provided in section 60-6,225;

10 (e) If equipped with any lighting device, other than headlights,
11 spotlights, or auxiliary driving lights, which projects a beam of light
12 of an intensity greater than twenty-five candlepower, such lighting
13 device meets the requirements of subsection (4) of section 60-6,225; and

14 (f) If equipped with side cowl or fender lights, there are no more
15 than two such lights and each such side cowl or fender light emits an
16 amber or white light.

17 Sec. 2. Section 60-6,220, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
18 amended to read:

19 60-6,220 (1) Motor vehicle headlights and taillights shall be
20 turned on:

21 (a) During the period from sunset to sunrise;

22 (b) When the motor vehicle operator cannot discern a person or
23 vehicle upon the highway from a distance of five hundred feet ahead due
24 to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, including,
25 but not limited to, rain, snow, sleet, hail, fog, smoke, or smog; or

26 (c) When the motor vehicle's windshield wipers are in continuous or
27 intermittent use due to precipitation or atmospheric moisture, including,
28 but not limited to, rain, snow, sleet, or mist.

29 (2)(a) Whenever a motor vehicle is parked or stopped upon a roadway
30 or shoulder adjacent thereto, whether attended or unattended, during the
31 times mentioned in section 60-6,219, such vehicle shall be equipped with

1 one or more lights which shall exhibit a light in such color as
2 designated by the Department of Motor Vehicles on the roadway side
3 visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the front of such vehicle
4 and a red light visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear,
5 except that a local authority may provide by ordinance that no lights
6 need be displayed upon any such vehicle when stopped or parked in
7 accordance with local parking regulations upon a highway where there is
8 sufficient light to reveal any person or obstruction within a distance of
9 five hundred feet upon such highway.

10 (b) Headlights turned on while a vehicle is parked Any lighted
11 headlights upon a parked vehicle shall be depressed or dimmed and
12 turnsignals shall not be flashed on one side only. On a freeway, the
13 operator of any parked vehicle shall also turn on its interior lights if
14 operable and vehicles equipped with an emergency switch for flashing all
15 directional turnsignals simultaneously shall exhibit such turnsignals.

16 Sec. 3. Section 60-6,221, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
17 amended to read:

18 60-6,221 (1) The headlights of motor vehicles shall be so
19 constructed, arranged, and adjusted that, except as provided in
20 subsection (2) of this section, they will at all times mentioned in
21 ~~section 60-6,219~~ produce a driving light sufficient to render clearly
22 discernible a person two hundred feet ahead, but the headlights shall not
23 project a glaring or dazzling light to persons in front of such
24 headlights.

25 (2) Headlights shall be deemed to comply with the provisions
26 prohibiting glaring and dazzling lights if none of the main bright
27 portion of the headlight beam rises above a horizontal plane passing
28 through the light centers parallel to the level road upon which the
29 loaded vehicle stands and in no case higher than forty-two inches,
30 seventy-five feet ahead of the vehicle.

31 Sec. 4. Section 60-6,222, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is

1 amended to read:

2 60-6,222 Any person who violates ~~any provision of~~ section 60-6,219
3 or 60-6,221 or subsection (1) of section 60-6,220 shall be guilty of a
4 Class III misdemeanor. In the event of such conviction, as a part of the
5 judgment of conviction, the trial judge shall direct the person to
6 produce in court or submit to the prosecuting attorney, before such
7 person again operates the motor vehicle upon a highway, satisfactory
8 proof showing that the light equipment involved in such person's
9 conviction has been made to conform with the requirements of such
10 sections. The failure, refusal, or neglect of such convicted person to
11 abide by such direction in the judgment of conviction shall be deemed an
12 additional offense for which such person shall be prosecuted.

13 Sec. 5. Original sections 60-6,220, 60-6,221, and 60-6,222, Reissue
14 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 60-6,219, Revised Statutes
15 Cumulative Supplement, 2016, are repealed.