

January 26, 1951.  
Motor Vehicles,  
Commerce and Trade.

**House File 233**

By WALTER of Hardin, BUCK, KUESTER,  
WASHBURN, DAVIS and BASS.

Passed House, Date .....

Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....

Passed Senate, Date.....

Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....

Approved .....

## A BILL FOR

An Act to amend chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code 1950, relating to motor vehicles and law of road.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1 Section 1. Chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code  
2 1950, is hereby amended by adding thereto the following new  
3 section:

4 "A motor vehicle operated by a member of an organized  
5 volunteer fire department may be equipped with a lamp or device  
6 thereon displaying a blue light visible from directly in front  
7 of such motor vehicle when such motor vehicle is duly authorized  
8 as hereinafter provided and while such motor vehicle is in  
9 actual use for fire or other emergency service.

10 "No volunteer fireman shall be permitted to display a blue  
11 light upon a motor vehicle as hereinbefore provided except while  
12 actually enroute to the scene of a fire or other emergency re-  
13 quiring his services as a volunteer fireman and unless he shall  
14 be an active member of an organized volunteer fire department  
15 and shall have been authorized in writing to so display a blue

16 light by the commissioner.

17 "The commissioner is hereby empowered to authorize the dis-  
18 play of a blue light upon a privately owned light delivery truck,  
19 panel delivery truck, pickup, station wagon, or passenger type  
20 motor vehicle except a motorcycle or motor bicycle, owned or  
21 usually operated by a volunteer fireman, and to issue a certi-  
22 ficate of authorization therefor, upon written request being  
23 made on forms provided by the department and showing necessity  
24 for such authorization. Such written request shall be accompanied  
25 by a statement in writing by the chief of the volunteer fire  
26 department of which the applicant is a member certifying that  
27 the applicant is an active member in good standing in said  
28 volunteer fire department and recommending that such authorization  
29 be granted. Such certificate of authorization issued by the  
30 commissioner shall be at all times carried with the certificate  
31 of registration of the vehicle to which it refers and shall  
32 expire at midnight on the thirty-first day of December in the  
33 year in which it was issued. The commissioner may at any time  
34 revoke such certificate of authorization upon a showing of abuse  
35 thereof or upon notification by the certifying fire chief that  
36 applicant has ceased to be an active member of the volunteer  
37 fire department.

38 "The provisions of section 321.423 shall not apply to the  
39 use of a flashing blue light on a motor vehicle so authorized  
40 by the commissioner, but such flashing blue light shall not be  
41 used except when such motor vehicle is actually enroute to the

42 scene of a fire or other emergency requiring the services of a  
43 volunteer fireman.”

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 233

The purpose of this bill is to provide for use of blue lights on vehicle of volunteer firemen. Such action is deemed necessary in order to safeguard the lives and property of the residents of the state as well as to help insure the safety of the men who, as volunteer firemen, devote themselves to community service. The lights, as hereinbefore recommended, will further serve in expediting the arrival at fires as well as serving as a safeguard to life and property.