

January 23, 1963.  
Highway Safety.

**House File 60**  
By RILEY.

Passed House, Date *passed 1-28* Passed Senate, Date.....  
Vote: Ayes..... Nays..... Vote: Ayes..... Nays.....  
Approved.....

## A BILL FOR

An Act relating to the equipment of motor vehicles with safety belts.

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

- 1 Chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code 1962, is
- 2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:
- 3 Section 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to sell
- 4 or offer for sale or operate on the highways of the state
- 5 of Iowa any vehicle subject to registration under the
- 6 provisions of this chapter which has never been registered
- 7 in this state or any other state prior to July 5, 1963, unless
- 8 such vehicle is equipped with safety belts of a type approved
- 9 by the department as follows:
- 10 1. Two pairs of safety belts, which said safety belts shall
- 11 be located so as to be usable by the driver of the vehicle and
- 12 one other occupant of the front seat of such vehicle, if the
- 13 vehicle has only a front seat.
- 14 2. Four pairs of safety belts, which said safety belts
- 15 shall be located so as to be usable by the driver of the vehicle
- 16 and one other occupant of the front seat of such vehicle and
- 17 two occupants of the back seat of such vehicle, if the vehicle
- 18 has both a front seat and a back seat.

- 1 Sec. 2. The provisions of this chapter with respect to
- 2 equipment on vehicles shall not apply to implements of

3 husbandry, road machinery, road rollers or farm tractors.  
1 Sec. 3. The commissioner shall compile and publish a list  
2 of types of safety belts, by name, approved by him as meeting  
3 the requirements of this section and the commissioner shall not  
4 register any motor vehicle which is subject to the provisions  
5 of this section unless it is equipped with an approved type  
6 of safety belts and he shall suspend the registration of any  
7 motor vehicle so subject to this section which he finds is not  
8 so equipped until it is made to conform to the requirements of  
9 this section.

EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 60

This bill recognizes the widely accepted viewpoint that many lives are saved and the seriousness of injuries reduced in automobile accidents where occupants of vehicles are using safety belts.

In Iowa in 1960 more than 50 percent of the 618 fatalities resulted from accidents involving only one vehicle. A great number of those one-vehicle accidents involved ejection of occupants which resulted in fatalities. About 100 fatalities were in this category in 1960 in Iowa. This bill requires only new automobiles which have not been registered in this state prior to July 5, 1963, to be equipped with safety belts.