

HOUSE BILL NO. 1199
with Senate Amendments
HOUSE BILL NO. 1199

Sixty-sixth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

Introduced by

Representatives D. Ruby, Becker, Jones, Kasper, Keiser, Lefor, Louser

Senators Burckhard, Kreun, Oban

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 39-10 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to platoons; to amend and reenact section 39-10-18 of the North Dakota
3 Century Code, relating to following a motor vehicle too closely; and to provide a penalty.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 39-10-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **39-10-18. Following too closely.**

- 8 1. The driver of a motor vehicle may not follow another vehicle more closely than is
9 reasonable and prudent, having due regard for the speed of such vehicles and the
10 traffic upon and the condition of the highway.
- 11 2. The driver of any truck or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle when traveling upon a
12 roadway outside of a business or residence district and which is following another
13 truck or motor vehicle drawing another vehicle shall, whenever conditions permit,
14 leave sufficient space so that an overtaking vehicle may enter and occupy such space
15 without danger, except that this does not prevent a truck or motor vehicle drawing
16 another vehicle from overtaking and passing any vehicle or combination of vehicles.
- 17 3. Motor vehicles being driven upon any roadway outside of a business or residence
18 district in a caravan or motorcade whether or not towing other vehicles must be so
19 operated as to allow sufficient space between each such vehicle or combination of
20 vehicles so as to enable any other vehicle to enter and occupy such space without
21 danger. This provision does not apply to funeral processions.
- 22 4. This section does not apply to the operation of a non-lead vehicle in a platoon.

1 5. As used in this section and section 2 of this Act, "platoon" means a group of motor
2 vehicles using vehicle-to-vehicle communications to travel in a unified manner at close
3 following distances on a multilane, limited-access, divided highway.

4 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 39-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **Motor vehicle platoons.**

- 7 1. The department, in coordination with the state highway patrol superintendent, shall
8 develop an operational plan that provides guidelines for operating a platoon. The plan
9 must include operational information that must be provided by a platoon technology
10 provider or commercial motor vehicle operator. The department may restrict platooning
11 operations in accordance with the guidelines or the operational information provided in
12 the plan.
- 13 2. A platoon may not operate unless the platoon technology provider or the commercial
14 motor vehicle operator files an operational plan with the department and the plan is
15 approved for general platoon operations. If the department does not approve the plan,
16 the department shall inform the platoon technology provider or commercial motor
17 vehicle operator of the reason for the disapproval and provide guidance on how to
18 resubmit the plan to obtain approval.
- 19 3. A person operating a motor vehicle in a platoon without an approved plan must be
20 assessed a fee of one hundred dollars.
- 21 4. A person operating a motor vehicle in violation of the guidelines in an operational plan
22 must be assessed a fee of one hundred dollars.