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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 3458

February 25, 2008

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Transportation Finance Division

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to traffic regulations; expanding requirement of display of vehicle
1.3 lighting; amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.48.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.48, is amended to read:

1.6 **169.48 VEHICLE LIGHTING.**

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Lights to be displayed.** (a) Every vehicle upon a highway within
1.8 this state:

1.9 ~~(1) at any time from sunset to sunrise;~~

1.10 ~~(2) at any time when it is raining, snowing, sleet, or hailing; and~~

1.11 ~~(3) at any other time when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog or other~~

1.12 ~~conditions or there is not sufficient light to render clearly discernible persons and vehicles~~

1.13 ~~on the highway at a distance of 500 feet ahead;~~

1.14 shall display lighted headlamps, lighted taillamps, and illuminating devices, as hereinafter,

1.15 respectively, required for different classes of vehicles, subject to exceptions with respect

1.16 to parked vehicles and law enforcement vehicles, as hereinafter stated. ~~In addition to~~

1.17 ~~the other requirements of this paragraph, every school bus transporting children upon a~~

1.18 ~~highway within this state, at any time from a half-hour before sunrise to a half-hour after~~

1.19 ~~sunset, shall display lighted headlamps, lighted taillamps, and illuminating devices as~~

1.20 ~~required by this paragraph,~~ except that the operator shall use the lowermost distribution of

1.21 light specified in section 169.60 unless conditions warrant otherwise.

1.22 (b) When requirement is hereinafter declared as to the distance from which certain

1.23 lamps and devices shall render objects visible or within which such lamps or devices

2.1 shall be visible, these provisions shall apply ~~during the time stated in this section~~ upon a
2.2 straight level unlighted highway under normal atmospheric conditions unless a different
2.3 time or condition is expressly stated and unless otherwise specified the location of lamps
2.4 and devices shall refer to the center of such lamps or devices. Parking lamps shall not be
2.5 used in lieu of headlamps to satisfy the requirements of this section.

2.6 ~~Subd. 2. **Certain violations; negligence.** Notwithstanding section 169.96, a~~
2.7 ~~violation of subdivision 1, paragraph (a), clause (2), is not negligence per se or prima facie~~
2.8 ~~evidence of negligence.~~