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State of Minnesota  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
NINETIETH SESSION

**H. F. No. 3500**

03/08/2018 Authored by Carlson, L.; Hornstein and Freiberg  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Regional Governance Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to traffic regulations; amending requirements on driving in the right-hand  
1.3 lane; making technical changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 2016, sections  
1.4 169.18, subdivisions 3, 10; 171.0705, by adding a subdivision; Minnesota Statutes  
1.5 2017 Supplement, section 169.18, subdivision 7.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 169.18, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 3. **Passing.** ~~The following rules shall govern the overtaking and passing of vehicles~~  
1.9 ~~proceeding in the same direction, subject to the limitations, exceptions, and special rules~~  
1.10 ~~hereinafter stated:~~

1.11 ~~(1) (a)~~ (a) The driver of a vehicle overtaking another vehicle proceeding in the same direction  
1.12 ~~shall~~ must pass to the left ~~thereof~~ of the other vehicle at a safe distance and ~~shall not again~~  
1.13 ~~drive~~ is prohibited from returning to the right side of the roadway until safely clear of the  
1.14 overtaken vehicle;

1.15 ~~(2) (b)~~ (b) Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the driver of an  
1.16 overtaken vehicle ~~shall~~ must give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle ~~on~~  
1.17 ~~audible warning~~, and ~~shall~~ must not increase the speed of the overtaken vehicle until  
1.18 completely passed by the overtaking vehicle; ~~and~~.

1.19 ~~(3) (c)~~ (c) The operator of a motor vehicle overtaking a bicycle or individual proceeding in  
1.20 the same direction on the roadway ~~shall~~ must (1) leave a safe distance, but in no case less  
1.21 than three feet clearance, when passing the bicycle or individual, and ~~shall~~ (2) maintain  
1.22 clearance until the vehicle has safely past passed the overtaken bicycle or individual.

2.1 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2017 Supplement, section 169.18, subdivision 7, is amended  
2.2 to read:

2.3 Subd. 7. **Laned highway.** (a) When any roadway has been divided into two or more  
2.4 clearly marked lanes for traffic, ~~the following rules, in addition to all others consistent~~  
2.5 ~~herewith, shall apply:~~ (a) a vehicle ~~shall~~ must be driven as nearly as practicable entirely  
2.6 within a single lane ~~and shall not be moved.~~ The driver must not move from ~~such~~ the lane  
2.7 until the driver has first ascertained that ~~such~~ the lane change movement can be made ~~with~~  
2.8 ~~safety~~ safely.

2.9 (b) Upon a roadway which is not a one-way roadway and which is divided into three  
2.10 lanes, a vehicle ~~shall~~ must not be driven in the center lane except:

2.11 (1) when overtaking and passing another vehicle where the roadway is clearly visible  
2.12 and such center lane is clear of traffic within a safe distance; ~~or;~~

2.13 (2) in preparation for a left turn; or

2.14 (3) where ~~such~~ the center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to traffic moving in  
2.15 the direction the vehicle is proceeding; and is signposted to give notice of ~~such~~ the allocation.

2.16 (c) The left lane of a three-lane roadway which is not a one-way roadway ~~shall~~ must not  
2.17 be used ~~for overtaking~~ to overtake and ~~passing~~ pass another vehicle.

2.18 ~~(e)~~ (d) A road authority may erect official signs ~~may be erected~~ directing slow-moving  
2.19 traffic to use a designated lane ~~or;~~ allocating specified lanes to traffic moving in the same  
2.20 direction, ~~and~~ or instructing motorists of the requirements under subdivision 10. Drivers of  
2.21 vehicles ~~shall~~ must obey the directions of every ~~such~~ sign erected under this paragraph.

2.22 ~~(d)~~ (e) Whenever a bicycle lane has been established on a roadway, any person operating  
2.23 a motor vehicle on such roadway ~~shall~~ must not drive in the bicycle lane except to:

2.24 (1) perform parking maneuvers in order to park where parking is permitted; ~~to;~~

2.25 (2) enter or leave the highway; ~~to;~~

2.26 (3) prepare for a turn as provided in section 169.19, subdivision 1; ~~or to~~

2.27 (4) stop a school bus for the purpose of receiving or discharging any person provided  
2.28 the school bus is equipped and identified as provided in sections 169.441 and 169.442,  
2.29 subdivision 1, and the flashing red signals are activated and stop-signal arm is extended.

2.30 (f) A vehicle must be driven in the right-hand lane under subdivision 10.

3.1 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 169.18, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

3.2 Subd. 10. **Slow-moving Vehicle operation in right-hand lane.** (a) Upon all laned  
 3.3 highways, including freeways and expressways as defined in section 160.02, a vehicle must  
 3.4 be driven in the right-hand lane then available for traffic if it is safe and practicable to do  
 3.5 so.

3.6 (b) Upon all roadways ~~any streets,~~ a vehicle proceeding at less than the normal speed  
 3.7 of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing ~~shall~~ must be driven  
 3.8 in the right-hand lane then available for traffic, or as close as practicable to the right-hand  
 3.9 curb or edge of the roadway, ~~except when~~ if it is safe and practicable to do so.

3.10 (c) The requirements under paragraphs (a) and (b) do not apply when:

3.11 (1) overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction, ~~or~~ provided  
 3.12 that the operator of the passing vehicle uses the rightmost lane then available;

3.13 (2) when preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway;  
 3.14 ~~or when;~~

3.15 (3) a specific lane is designated and posted for a specific type of traffic;

3.16 (4) overtaking and passing vehicles as provided in subdivisions 11 and 12;

3.17 (5) necessary to enter or exit an expressway, freeway, interstate highway, or other  
 3.18 controlled-access highway; or

3.19 (6) otherwise directed by an official traffic-control device, by a peace officer, in a work  
 3.20 zone, or by other law.

3.21 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 171.0705, is amended by adding a subdivision  
 3.22 to read:

3.23 Subd. 11. **Driver's manual; restricted driving in left lane.** The commissioner must  
 3.24 include in each edition of the driver's manual published by the department after August 1,  
 3.25 2018, information explaining the requirement to drive a motor vehicle in the right-hand  
 3.26 lane, including the circumstances under which a driver is allowed to drive in another lane,  
 3.27 as provided under section 169.18, subdivision 10.