

**SB 166 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Beyer

**Joint Committee On Transportation**

---

**Action Date:** 03/25/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Senate Vote**

**Yeas:** 4 - Beyer, Boquist, Frederick, Gorsek

**Nays:** 1 - Findley

**House Vote**

**Yeas:** 4 - Evans, McLain, Nathanson, Power

**Nays:** 2 - Boshart Davis, Lewis

**Exc:** 1 - Noble

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** Has minimal revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Patrick Brennan, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 2/25, 3/25

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires that motor vehicles must use headlights at all times when the vehicle is being driven on a highway unless the vehicle is equipped with daytime running lights. Designates failure to do so as Class B traffic violation with a maximum fine of \$1,000.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Visibility limited in certain conditions even during daytime hours
- Many businesses require drivers to use headlights when operating vehicles
- Whether daytime running lights would meet measure's requirements

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Specifies that vehicles equipped with daytime running lights are in compliance with measure's requirements.

**BACKGROUND:**

Under current law, a motor vehicle driver commits the offense of failure to use headlights if driving any vehicle in a funeral procession without using low-beam headlights. Motorcycles and mopeds are required to operate headlights at all times. All states require that vehicles use headlights between sunset and sunrise; some states extend the requirement to one-half hour prior to sunset and one-half hour after sunrise and some states require operation of headlights during rain, snow, or other inclement weather.

Senate Bill 166 A requires all motor vehicles being driven on a highway to have their headlights lighted or be equipped with daytime running lights. Failure to do so is designated a Class B traffic violation.