

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 450

BY JUDICIARY, RULES, AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO INATTENTIVE DRIVING; AMENDING SECTION 49-1401, IDAHO CODE, TO
PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO INATTENTIVE DRIVING.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 49-1401, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
amended to read as follows:

49-1401. RECKLESS DRIVING -- INATTENTIVE DRIVING. (1) Any person who
drives or is in actual physical control of any vehicle upon a highway, or upon
public or private property open to public use, carelessly and heedlessly or
without due caution and circumspection, and at a speed or in a manner as to
endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property, or who passes when
there is a line in his lane indicating a sight distance restriction, shall be
guilty of reckless driving and upon conviction shall be punished as provided
in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) Every person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of reckless
driving for the first time is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be sentenced to
jail for not more than six (6) months or may be fined not more than one thou-
sand dollars (\$1,000), or may be punished by both fine and imprisonment. Ev-
ery person who pleads guilty to or is found guilty of reckless driving, who
has previously been found guilty of or has pled guilty to reckless driving,
or any substantially conforming foreign criminal violation within five (5)
years, notwithstanding the form of the judgment(s) or withheld judgment(s),
is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be sentenced to jail for not more than
one (1) year or may be fined not more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000), or
may be punished by both fine and imprisonment. The department shall suspend
the driver's license or privileges of any such person as provided in section
49-326, Idaho Code.

(3) Inattentive driving shall be considered a lesser offense than reck-
less driving and shall be applicable in those circumstances where the con-
duct of the operator has been inattentive, careless or imprudent, in light of
the circumstances then existing, rather than heedless or wanton, or in those
cases where the danger to persons or property by the motor vehicle operator's
conduct is slight, or in those circumstances where the operator has a known
medical condition that is not being properly treated that affects the oper-
ator's ability to drive. Every person convicted of inattentive driving un-
der this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and may be sentenced to jail
for not more than ninety (90) days or may be fined not more than three hundred
dollars (\$300), or may be punished by both fine and imprisonment.