

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the House Transportation Committee.

My name is Austen Schauer representing District 13 in West Fargo.

House Bill Number 1141 will help **clarify** current law while providing a level of protection to people in a vehicle who find themselves stranded along the state's interstate or multi-lane divided highways.

The **current law** specifically addresses emergency and Department of Transportation vehicles displaying a flashing, revolving, or rotating amber, blue, white, or red light.

Many drivers are left unsure of what vehicles that includes.

Does it include tow trucks, a personal vehicle operated by a volunteer firefighter, or a tractor mowing the right-of-way?

What it clearly **doesn't** cover is a school bus, a motor coach, a tractor-trailer, or the family vehicle driven by your son, daughter, or anyone else.

A law enforcement officer performing official duties **is** covered by the law, but that same officer who is **off duty** is **not**.