

As of Sunday, Aug. 30, motorists in Nebraska are required to move over a lane when approaching stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights providing service on high-speed, multi-lane roadways.

After determining it is safe, drivers traveling in the lane adjacent to the area where emergency service is being provided must move over to create a clear lane of traffic.

Emergency vehicles include tow service trucks, law enforcement units, fire and rescue vehicles, State Patrol motorist assist units and Department of Roads vehicles.

If motorists are unable to move over due to road or weather conditions, or traffic congestion, they must slow down and maintain a safe speed while passing the emergency vehicle.

Penalties for violating the law may include a \$100 fine for a first offense. Subsequent offenses can result in fines of up to \$500 and/or up to seven days in jail.

Hawaii, Connecticut and Maryland are the only states in the U.S. that do not have a Move Over Law. This law was passed in Nebraska to protect officers and other emergency workers from serious work related injuries.

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund reports that 154 police officers have been killed since 1999 after being struck by vehicles along America's highways.