

HB 678 -- Driving While Intoxicated

Sponsor: Lipke (157)

This bill replaces references to the offense of "driving while intoxicated" with the broader term "intoxication-related offense" in several provisions for the purpose of determining punishment or the number of prior convictions. Intoxication-related offenses include driving while intoxicated, driving with excessive blood alcohol content, involuntary manslaughter with a vehicle while intoxicated, assault of a law enforcement officer with a vehicle while intoxicated, and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs in violation of a county or municipal ordinance.

The bill also amends the provision regarding eligibility for a driver's license by prohibiting the issuance of a license to a person who has been convicted of involuntary manslaughter while operating a vehicle in an intoxicated condition within a five-year period. Current law states no time frame.

The bill changes the community service requirements for driving while intoxicated to 80 hours of community service, rather than 30 days. The bill also requires that this community service be completed within a six-month period. The community service required for persons convicted as persistent offenders is changed from 60 days to 160 hours and must be completed within one year.