

CHAPTER 225—S. F. No. 379.

An act relating to restriction of movements by certain motor vehicles on Sundays; suspending the provisions of Mason's Supplement 1940, Sections 5015-45 to 5015-54, inclusive.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Restrictions on motor vehicles suspended for duration.—

The provisions of Mason's Supplement 1940, Sections 5015-45, 5015-46, 5015-47, 5015-48, 5015-49, 5015-50, 5015-51, 5015-52, 5015-53 and 5015-54 are hereby suspended until 60 days after the cessation of the present emergency now declared to exist by reason of hostilities engaged in by the United States of America with foreign powers as may be declared by competent federal authority.

Approved March 30, 1943.

CHAPTER 226—S. F. No. 492.

(AMENDING SECTIONS 169.81; 169.82; 169.83; AND 169.86,
MINNESOTA STATUTES 1941.)

An act to alleviate trade barriers by providing more uniform lengths and weights for motor vehicles; regulating the use and operation of vehicles on highways; amending Mason's Supplement 1940, Sections 2720-272, 2720-274, 2720-275, and 2720-278.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. **Law amended.**—Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2720-272 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“2720-272. (a) **Height and length of vehicle and load.**—No vehicle unladen or with load shall exceed a height of 12 feet six inches.

“(b) No vehicle *unladen or with load* shall exceed a length of 40 feet extreme overall dimensions, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, except that the governing body or any city or village is hereby authorized by ordinance to provide for the maximum length of any motor vehicle, or combination of motor vehicles, or the number of vehicles that may be fastened together, and which may be operated upon the streets or highways of said city, and provided, however, that such ordinance shall not prescribe a length less than that permitted by state law. Any such motor vehicle

operated in compliance with such ordinance on the streets or highways of such city shall not be deemed to be in violation of this act. A truck tractor and semi-trailer shall be regarded as a *combination of vehicles* for the purpose of determining lawful length.

“(c) No combination of vehicles coupled together *unladen or with load* shall consist of more than two units and no such combination of vehicles shall exceed a total length of 45 feet, provided that this limitation shall not apply to the transportation of telegraph poles, telephone poles, electric light and power poles or piling, and subject to the following further exceptions: Said length limitations shall not apply to vehicles when transporting pipe, or other objects by a public utility when required for emergency or repair of public service facilities or when operated under special permits as provided in this act, but in respect to night transportation every such vehicle and the load thereon shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps and marker lamps on both sides and upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of such load.

“(d) The load upon any vehicle operated alone, or the load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not extend more than three feet beyond the front wheels of such vehicle or the front bumper of such vehicle if it is equipped with such a bumper.”

Sec. 2. **Law amended.**—Mason’s Supplement 1940, Section 2720-274 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“2720-274. **Weight of trailers.**—(a) *Any trailer exceeding a gross weight of 6,000 pounds shall be equipped with brakes adequate to stop and hold such trailer, and which are so constructed that they will so operate whenever such trailer becomes detached from the towing vehicle.*

“(b) When one vehicle is towing another the drawbar or other connection shall be of sufficient strength to pull all weight towed thereby and said drawbar or other connection shall not exceed 15 feet from one vehicle to the other except the connection between any two vehicles transporting poles, pipe, machinery or other objects of structural nature which cannot readily be dismembered.

“(c) When one vehicle is towing another and the connection consists of a chain, rope, or cable, there shall be displayed upon such connection a white flag or cloth not less than 12 inches square.

“(d) Every trailer or semi-trailer shall be hitched to the motor vehicles furnishing the tractive power for it by a device approved by the commissioner as safe.”

Sec. 3. **Law amended.**—Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2720-275 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“2720-275. **Limit of weight upon vehicles.**

“(a) *No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires shall be operated upon the highways of this State:*

1. *Where the gross weight on any wheel exceeds 9,000 pounds;*
2. *Where the gross weight on any single axle exceeds 18,000 pounds;*
3. *Where the total gross weight on any two axles spaced less than 10 feet apart exceeds 30,000 pounds;*
4. *Where the total gross weight on any two or more consecutive axles of any vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeds the product of 700 multiplied by the sum of 40 plus the distance in feet between the first and last axles of the group of axles under consideration.*

A single axle as used in this section is defined as including all wheels whose centers may be included within two parallel transverse vertical planes 40 inches apart.

“(b) *A vehicle or combination of vehicles not equipped with pneumatic tires shall be governed by the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, except that the gross weight limitations shall be reduced by 40 per cent.*

4 “(c) *The provisions of this section shall not apply to vehicles operated exclusively in any city or village, or contiguous cities or villages in this State.*”

Sec. 4. **Law amended.**—Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 2720-278 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“2720-278. **Special permits for moving vehicles.**—(a) *The commissioner with respect to highways under his jurisdiction and local authorities with respect to highways under their jurisdiction may, in their discretion, upon application in writing and good cause being shown therefor, issue a special permit in writing authorizing the applicant to move a vehicle or combination of vehicles of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in this act or otherwise not in conformity with the provisions of this act upon any highway under the jurisdiction of the party granting such permit and for the maintenance of which said party is responsible.*

“(b) The application for any such permit shall specifically describe the vehicle or vehicles and loads to be moved and the particular highways for which permit to so use is requested, and the *period of time* for which such permit is requested.

“(c) The commissioner or local authority is authorized to issue or withhold such permit at his discretion; or, if such permit is issued, to limit or prescribe conditions of operation of such vehicle or vehicles, when necessary to assure against undue damage to the road foundations, surfaces or structures, and may require such undertaking or other security as may be deemed necessary to compensate for any injury to any roadway or road structure.

“(d) Every such permit shall be carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it refers and shall be open to inspection by any police officer or authorized agent of any authority granting such permit, and no person shall violate any of the terms or conditions of such special permit.”

Approved March 30, 1943.

CHAPTER 227—H. F. No. 179.

(AMENDING SECTION 410.12 MINNESOTA STATUTES 1941.)

An act relating to publication requirements for home rule charter amendments in cities and amending Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 1286, Subdivision 4.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

Section 1. **Law amended—Amendments.**—Mason's Supplement 1940, Section 1286, Subdivision 4, is amended to read as follows:

Subdivision 4. Amendments shall be submitted as in the case of the original charter, and the proposal shall be published *once a week for four weeks in at least one newspaper of general circulation in such city. In every city of the first class, the publication shall be made in a newspaper having an aggregate regular paid circulation of at least 25,000 copies and the governing body of any city of the first class may in addition thereto publish said proposal in any other legal newspaper located in said city.* The form of ballot and mode of voting shall be similar to those used upon the adoption of such charter, the general nature of each