EXTRA SESSION CHAPTER 43—S.F.No.197

An act relating to motor vehicles; the use of certain equipment thereon; authorizing the use of certain equipment on motor vehicles of nonresidents of the state; amending Minnesota Statutes 1969, Section 169.72.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1969, Section 169.72, is amended to read:

169.72 MOTOR VEHICLES; EQUIPMENT; SURFACE OF TIRES; TIRES WITH METAL STUDS. <u>Subdivision 1</u>. Every solid rubber tire on a vehicle shall have rubber on its entire traction surface at least one inch thick above the edge of the flange of the entire periphery.

No person shall operate or move on any highway any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, having any metal tire in contact with the roadway, except in case of emergency.

Except as provided in this section no tire on a vehicle moved on a highway shall have on its periphery any block, stud, flange, cleat, or spike or any other protuberances of any material other than rubber which projects beyond the tread of the traction surface of the tire. It shall be permissible to use any of the following on highways: Farm machinery with tires having protuberances which will not injure the highway; tire chains of reasonable proportions upon any vehicle when required for safety because of snow, ice, or other conditions tending to cause a vehicle to skid; and in the years 1965 through 1971 between the dates of October 15 of one year and May 1 of the following year, pneumatic tires with metal type studs not exceeding 5/16 of an inch in diameter inclusive of the stud casing with an average protrusion beyond the tread surface of not more than 7/24 of an inch, and in which the number of studs in a tire shall not exceed two percent of the total net contact area.

The commissioner and local authorities in their respective jurisdictions may, in their discretion, issue special permits authorizing the operation upon a highway of traction engines or tractors having movable tracks with transverse corrugations upon the periphery of such movable tracks or farm tractors or other farm machinery, the operation of which upon a highway would otherwise be prohibited under this chapter.

Changes or additions indicated by underline, deletions by strikeout.

The commissioner of highways is directed to conduct an in-depth study of the damage, if any, caused to the public roadways of this state which results from the use of metal tire studs, salt de icing materials, and other materials of a chemical or physical nature used upon said highways. Further, the commissioner is directed to evaluate whether or not changes in asphalts, concrete aggregates, or other highway surface materials could be made to reduce the damage, if any, caused by metal tire studs and de-icing materials. The commissioner shall evaluate the effects, if any, that discontinuing the use of studded tires will have on highway safety. The commissioner is directed to conduct the study herein prescribed and to report his findings to the 1971 session of the state legislature.

Subd. 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision 1, a person, operating a motor vehicle properly licensed and registered in another state or province of a foreign country which authorizes the use of tires with metal studs or wire embedded tires on its highways, may operate the motor vehicle with tires having metal type studs or with tires having wire embedded therein on the highways of this state while occasionally within the state, and such use while occasionally within the state is not unlawful. Use of a vehicle in this state on more than 30 days in any year is not occasionally.

Approved November 11, 1971.

EXTRA SESSION CHAPTER 44—H.F.No.71

An act relating to natural resources; state soil and water conservation districts; including municipalities within districts; changing the terms of district supervisors; providing that the state soil and water conservation commission be an agency within the department of natural resources and providing for membership thereon and employees thereof; amending Minnesota Statutes 1969, Sections 40.03, Subdivisions 1 and 2; 40.04, Subdivisions 6 and 12; 40.05; and 40.06, Subdivisions 1 and 5.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1969, Section 40.04, Subdivision 6, is amended to read:

Changes or additions indicated by underline, deletions by strikeout.