

(c) Service performed by members of the Minnesota national guard when ordered to duty for military assignments;

(d) Service performed in the employ of the state natural resources department directly and solely in connection with emergency fire fighting, including but not limited to those persons temporarily employed for the purpose of detecting, locating, or suppressing forest fires.

(17) "Institution of higher education," for the purposes of this subdivision, means an educational institution which:

(a) Admits as regular students only individuals having a certificate of graduation from a high school, or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate;

(b) Is legally authorized in this state to provide a program of education beyond high school;

(c) Provides an educational program for which it awards a bachelor's or higher degree, or provides a program which is acceptable for credit toward such a degree, a program of post-graduate or post-doctoral studies, or a program of training to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation; and

(d) Is a public or other nonprofit institution.

(e) Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions of this clause, all colleges and universities in this state are institutions of higher education for purposes of this section.

(18) "Hospital" means an institution which has been licensed, certified or approved by the department of health as a hospital.

Approved May 25, 1979.

CHAPTER 213—H.F.No.515

An act relating to motor vehicles; defining the gross weight of a wrecker for the purposes of registration and taxation; amending Minnesota Statutes 1978, Sections 168.011, Subdivision 16; and 168.013, Subdivision 3.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1978, Section 168.011, Subdivision 16, is amended to read:

Subd. 16. **GROSS WEIGHT.** "Gross weight" means the actual unloaded weight of the vehicle, either a truck or tractor, or the actual unloaded combined weight of a truck-tractor and semitrailer or semitrailers, or of the truck-tractor, semitrailer and one

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additional semitrailer, fully equipped for service, plus the weight of the maximum load which the applicant has elected to carry on such vehicle or combined vehicles. The term gross weight applied to a truck used for towing a trailer means the unloaded weight of the truck, fully equipped for service, plus the weight of the maximum load which the applicant has elected to carry on such truck, including the weight of such part of the trailer and its load as may rest upon the truck. The term gross weight applied to school buses means the weight of the vehicle fully equipped with all fuel tanks full of fuel, plus the weight of the passengers and their baggage computed at the rate of 100 pounds per passenger seating capacity, including that for the driver. The term gross weight applied to other buses means the weight of the vehicle fully equipped with all fuel tanks full of fuel, plus the weight of passengers and their baggage computed at the rate of 150 pounds per passenger seating capacity, including that for the driver. For bus seats designed for more than one passenger, but which are not divided so as to allot individual seats for the passengers that occupy them, allow two feet of its length per passenger to determine seating capacity. The term gross weight applied to a truck, truck-tractor or a truck used as a truck-tractor used exclusively by the owner thereof for transporting unfinished forest products or used by the owner thereof to transport agricultural, horticultural, dairy and other farm products including livestock produced or finished by the owner of the truck and any other personal property owned by the farmer to whom the license for such truck is issued, from the farm to market, and to transport property and supplies to the farm of the owner, as described in subdivision 17, shall be the actual weight of the truck, truck-tractor or truck used as a truck-tractor or the combined weight of the truck-tractor and semitrailer plus the weight of the maximum load which the applicant has elected to carry on such vehicle or combined vehicles and shall be licensed and taxed as provided by section 168.013, subdivision 1c. The term gross weight applied to a truck-tractor or a truck used as a truck-tractor used exclusively by the owner thereof for towing an equipment dolly shall be the actual weight of the truck-tractor or truck used as a truck-tractor plus the weight of such part of the equipment dolly and its load as may rest upon the truck-tractor or truck used as a truck-tractor, and shall be licensed separately and taxed as provided by section 168.013, subdivision 1e, and the equipment dolly shall be licensed separately and taxed as provided in section 168.013, subdivision 1d, which is applicable for the balance of the weight of the equipment dolly and the balance of the maximum load the applicant has elected to carry on such combined vehicles. The term "equipment dolly" as used in this subdivision means a heavy semitrailer used solely by the owner thereof to transport his construction machinery, equipment, implements and other objects used on a construction project, but not to be incorporated in or to become a part of a completed project. The term gross weight applied to a wrecker defined in section 169.01, subdivision 52, means the weight of the wrecker fully equipped for service, including the weight of the crane, winch and other equipment to control the movement of a towed vehicle, but does not include the weight of a wrecked or disabled vehicle towed or drawn by the wrecker.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1978, Section 168.013, Subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **APPLICATION; CANCELTION; EXCESSIVE GROSS WEIGHTS FORBIDDEN.** The applicant for all licenses based on gross weight shall state in writing upon oath, among other things, the unloaded weight of such vehicle or trailer and the

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maximum load the applicant proposes to carry thereon, the sum of which shall constitute the gross weight upon which the license tax shall be paid, but in no case shall the declared gross weight upon which the tax is paid be less than 1-1/2 times the declared unloaded weight of the vehicle or trailer to be registered, except recreational vehicles taxed under subdivision 1g ~~and~~, school buses taxed under subdivision 18 ~~and wreckers defined in section 169.01, subdivision 52. The gross weight of a wrecker is the actual weight of the wrecker fully equipped, but does not include the weight of a wrecked or disabled vehicle towed or drawn by the wrecker.~~

The gross weight of no vehicle or trailer shall exceed the gross weight upon which the license tax has been paid by more than four percent or 1000 pounds, whichever is greater.

The gross weight of the vehicle or trailer for which such license tax is paid shall be indicated by a distinctive character on the license plate or plates except as provided in subdivision 12 and the plate or plates shall be kept clean and clearly visible at all times.

The owner, driver, or user of a vehicle or trailer upon conviction for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which it was registered or for operating a vehicle with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load weight shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and be subject to increased registration or re-registration according to the following schedule:

(1) The owner, driver or user of a vehicle or trailer upon conviction for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which it is registered by more than four percent or 1000 pounds, whichever is greater, but less than 25 percent or for operating or using a vehicle or trailer with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load as provided in section 169.83 by more than four percent or 1000 pounds, whichever is greater, but less than 25 percent, in addition to any penalty imposed on him for the misdemeanor shall apply to the registrar to increase the authorized gross weight to be carried on the vehicle to a weight equal to or greater than the gross weight of which the owner, driver, or user was convicted of carrying, the increase computed for the balance of the calendar year on the basis of 1/12 of the annual tax for each month remaining in the calendar year beginning with the first day of the month in which the violation occurred. If the additional registration tax computed upon that weight, plus the tax already paid, amounts to more than the regular tax for the maximum gross weight permitted for such a vehicle under section 169.83, that additional amount shall nevertheless be paid into the highway fund, but the additional tax thus paid shall not be deemed to permit the vehicle to be operated with a gross weight in excess of the maximum legal weight as provided by section 169.83. Unless the owner within 30 days after such a conviction shall apply to increase the authorized weight and pay the additional tax as herein provided, the registrar shall revoke the registration on the vehicle and demand the return of the registration card and plates issued by him on that registration.

(2) The owner or driver or user of a vehicle or trailer upon conviction for transporting a gross weight in excess of the gross weight for which the vehicle or trailer was registered by 25 percent or more, or for operating or using a vehicle or trailer with an axle weight exceeding the maximum lawful axle load as provided in section 169.83 by 25

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percent or more, in addition to any penalty imposed on him for the misdemeanor, shall have the reciprocity privileges on the vehicle involved if the same is being operated under reciprocity canceled by the registrar, or if the vehicle is not being operated under reciprocity, the certificate of registration on the vehicle so operated shall be canceled by the registrar and the registrar shall demand the return of the registration certificate and registration plates. The registrar may investigate any allegation of gross weight violations and demand that the operator show cause why all future operating privileges in the state should not be revoked unless the additional tax assessed be paid.

(3) When the registration on a motor vehicle, trailer or semitrailer has been revoked by the registrar according to provisions of this section, such vehicle shall not be again operated on the highways of the state until it is registered or re-registered, as the case may be, and new plates issued, and the registration fee therefor shall be the annual tax for the total gross weight of the vehicle at the time of violation.

Approved May 25, 1979.

CHAPTER 214—H.F.No.521

An act relating to domestic abuse; authorizing judicial intervention to provide protection from domestic abuse; prescribing penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[518B.01] DOMESTIC ABUSE ACT.** Subdivision 1. **SHORT TITLE.** This section may be cited as the domestic abuse act.

Subd. 2. **DEFINITIONS.** As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings given them:

(a) "Domestic abuse" means: (i) physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, between family or household members; or (ii) criminal sexual conduct, within the meaning of Minnesota Statutes, Sections 609.342, 609.343, 609.344, or 609.345, committed against a minor family or household member by an adult family or household member;

(b) "Family or household members" means spouses, parents and children, persons related by consanguinity, and persons jointly residing in the same dwelling unit.

Subd. 3. **COURT JURISDICTION.** An application for relief under this section may be filed in the court having jurisdiction over dissolution actions. In a jurisdiction which utilizes referees in dissolution actions, the court or judge may refer actions under this section to a referee to take and report the evidence therein in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as is provided in section 518.13. Actions under this section shall be given docket priorities by the court.

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