

CHAPTER 89--S.F.No. 3637

An act relating to transportation; clarifying that an optometrist may prescribe certain window glazing materials; amending Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 169.71, subdivision 4a.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2025 Supplement, section 169.71, subdivision 4a, is amended to read:

Subd. 4a. **Glazing material; exceptions.** (a) Subdivision 4 does not apply to glazing materials that:

(1) have not been modified since the original installation, nor to original replacement windows and windshields, that were originally installed or replaced in conformity with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 205;

(2) are required to satisfy prescription or medical needs, provided:

(i) the vehicle's driver or a passenger possesses a prescription or a physician's or optometrist's statement of medical need;

(ii) the prescription specifically states whether the medical need is a temporary or permanent condition;

(iii) the prescription or statement specifically states the minimum percentage that light transmittance may be reduced to satisfy the prescription or medical needs of the patient; and

(iv) the prescription or statement contains an expiration date provided by the physician or optometrist, which must be no more than two years after the date the prescription or statement was issued, unless an indication is made by the physician or optometrist that the driver's condition is permanent and no expiration date is appropriate; or

(3) are applied to:

(i) the rear windows of a pickup truck as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 26;

(ii) the rear windows or the side windows on either side behind the driver's seat of a van as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 40;

(iii) the side and rear windows of a vehicle used to transport human remains by a funeral establishment holding a license under section 149A.50;

(iv) the side and rear windows of a limousine as defined in section 168.002, subdivision 15; or

(v) the rear and side windows of a police vehicle.

(b) For the purposes of paragraph (a), clause (2), a driver of a vehicle may rely on a prescription or physician's or optometrist's statement of medical need issued to a person not present in the vehicle if:

(1) the prescription or physician's or optometrist's statement of medical need is issued to (i) the driver's parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, or spouse, or (ii) a person for whom the driver is a personal care attendant;

(2) the prescription or physician's or optometrist's statement of medical need specifies the make, model, and license plate of one or two vehicles that will have tinted windows; and

(3) the driver is in possession of the prescription or physician's or optometrist's statement of medical need.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from July 1, 2025, and applies to prescriptions issued on or after that date.

Presented to the governor May 11, 2026

Signed by the governor May 12, 2026, 12:44 p.m.