

## CHAPTER 169

## TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

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## 169.01 DEFINITIONS.

*[For text of subds 1 to 16, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 18. [Repealed, 2001 c 24 s 5]

*[For text of subds 19 to 74, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 75. **Commercial motor vehicle.** (a) "Commercial motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles used to transport passengers or property if the motor vehicle:

- (1) has a gross vehicle weight of more than 26,000 pounds;
- (2) has a towed unit with a gross vehicle weight of more than 10,000 pounds and the combination of vehicles has a combined gross vehicle weight of more than 26,000 pounds;
- (3) is a bus;
- (4) is of any size and is used in the transportation of hazardous materials, except for those vehicles having a gross vehicle weight of 26,000 pounds or less while carrying in bulk tanks a total of not more than 200 gallons of petroleum products and liquid fertilizer; or
- (5) is outwardly equipped and identified as a school bus, except for type A-II and type III school buses as defined in subdivision 6.

(b) For purposes of chapter 169A:

- (1) a commercial motor vehicle does not include a farm truck, firefighting equipment, or recreational equipment being operated by a person within the scope of section 171.02, subdivision 2, paragraph (b); and
- (2) a commercial motor vehicle includes a vehicle capable of or designed to meet the standards described in paragraph (a), clause (2), whether or not the towed unit is attached to the truck-tractor at the time of the violation or stop.

*[For text of subds 76 to 80, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 81. **Residential roadway.** "Residential roadway" means a street or portion of a street that is less than one-half mile in length and is functionally classified as a local street by the road authority having jurisdiction.

*[For text of subds 84 and 85, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 97 s 1; 2001 c 119 s 1

**NOTE:** The amendment to subdivision 75 by Laws 2001, chapter 97, section 1, expires July 1, 2003. Laws 2001, chapter 97, section 5, paragraph (c).

**169.03 EMERGENCY VEHICLES; EXEMPTIONS; APPLICATION.**

*[For text of subds 1 to 6, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 7. **Streetcars.** Streetcars, except where otherwise specifically provided, shall be governed by the same rules as provided in this chapter for vehicles and motor vehicles, only insofar as such rules apply to speed, stopped at through streets and railroad tracks, and obeying signals of traffic-control devices and rights-of-way, driving under the influence of drugs or intoxicating liquor, careless driving, and the stopping at the scene of an accident and giving the information as required by this chapter, and following vehicles too closely, and shall be entitled to the same rights and benefits of this chapter, as to warning, turning and stopping signals and rights-of-way, as any vehicles or motor vehicle in the streets and highways of this state.

*[For text of subd 8, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 24 s 1

**169.073 PROHIBITED LIGHT OR SIGNAL.**

(a) No person or corporation shall place, maintain or display any red light or red sign, signal, or lighting device or maintain it in view of any highway or any line of railroad on or over which trains are operated in such a way as to interfere with the effectiveness or efficiency of any highway traffic-control device or signals or devices used in the operation of a railroad. Upon written notice from the commissioner of transportation, a person or corporation maintaining or owning or displaying a prohibited light shall promptly remove it, or change the color of it to some other color than red. Where a prohibited light or sign interferes with the effectiveness or efficiency of the signals or devices used in the operation of a railroad, the department of transportation may cause the removal of it and the department may issue notices and orders for its removal. The department shall proceed as provided in sections 216.13, 216.14, 216.15, 216.16, and 216.17, with a right of appeal to the aggrieved party in accordance with chapter 14.

(b) No person or corporation shall maintain or display any light after written notice from the commissioner of transportation or the department of public service that the light constitutes a traffic hazard and that it has ordered the removal thereof.

**History:** 1Sp2001 c 4 art 6 s 24

**169.09 ACCIDENTS.**

*[For text of subds 1 to 7, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 8. **Officer to report accident to commissioner.** A law enforcement officer who, in the regular course of duty, investigates a motor vehicle accident that must be reported under this section shall, within ten days after the date of the accident, forward an electronic or written report of the accident to the commissioner of public safety.

Subd. 9. **Accident report forms.** The department of public safety shall prepare electronic or written forms for accident reports required under this section. Upon request the department shall supply the forms to police departments, coroners, sheriffs, garages, and other suitable agencies or individuals. The forms must be appropriate with respect to the persons required to make the reports and the purposes to be served. The electronic or written report forms to be completed by persons involved in accidents and by investigating officers must call for sufficiently detailed information to disclose with reference to a traffic accident the causes, conditions then existing, and the persons and vehicles involved.

Subd. 10. **Use of form required.** A required accident report must be made on an appropriate form approved by the department of public safety and contain all of the information required unless not available.

*[For text of subds 11 and 12, see M.S.2000].*

Subd. 13. **Reports confidential; evidence, fee, penalty, appropriation.** (a) All written reports and supplemental reports required under this section shall be for the use of the commissioner of public safety and other appropriate state, federal, county, and municipal governmental agencies for accident analysis purposes, except:

(1) the commissioner of public safety or any law enforcement agency shall, upon written request of any person involved in an accident or upon written request of the representative of the person's estate, surviving spouse, or one or more surviving next of kin, or a trustee appointed pursuant to section 573.02, disclose to the requester, the requester's legal counsel, or a representative of the requester's insurer the report required under subdivision 8;

(2) the commissioner of public safety shall, upon written request, provide the driver filing a report under subdivision 7 with a copy of the report filed by the driver;

(3) the commissioner of public safety may verify with insurance companies vehicle insurance information to enforce sections 65B.48, 169.792, 169.793, 169.796, and 169.797;

(4) the commissioner of public safety shall provide the commissioner of transportation the information obtained for each traffic accident involving a commercial motor vehicle, for purposes of administering commercial vehicle safety regulations; and

(5) the commissioner of public safety may give to the United States Department of Transportation commercial vehicle accident information in connection with federal grant programs relating to safety.

(b) Accident reports and data contained in the reports shall not be discoverable under any provision of law or rule of court. No report shall be used as evidence in any trial, civil or criminal, arising out of an accident, except that the commissioner of public safety shall furnish upon the demand of any person who has, or claims to have, made a report, or, upon demand of any court, a certificate showing that a specified accident report has or has not been made to the commissioner solely to prove compliance or failure to comply with the requirements that the report be made to the commissioner.

(c) Nothing in this subdivision prevents any person who has made a report pursuant to this section from providing information to any persons involved in an accident or their representatives or from testifying in any trial, civil or criminal, arising out of an accident, as to facts within the person's knowledge. It is intended by this subdivision to render privileged the reports required, but it is not intended to prohibit proof of the facts to which the reports relate.

(d) Disclosing any information contained in any accident report, except as provided in this subdivision, section 13.82, subdivision 3 or 4, or other statutes, is a misdemeanor.

(e) The commissioner of public safety may charge authorized persons a \$5 fee for a copy of an accident report. The commissioner may also furnish copies of the modified accident records database to private agencies as provided in paragraph (g), for not less than the cost of preparing the copies on a bulk basis.

(f) The commissioner and law enforcement agencies may charge commercial users who request access to response or incident data relating to accidents a fee not to exceed 50 cents per report. "Commercial user" is a user who in one location requests access to data in more than five accident reports per month, unless the user establishes that access is not for a commercial purpose. Money collected by the commissioner under this paragraph is appropriated to the commissioner.

(g) The commissioner may provide a modified copy of the accident records database that does not contain names, driver's license numbers, vehicle license plate numbers, addresses, or other identifying data to the public upon request. However, unless the accident records data base includes the motor vehicle identification number, the commissioner shall include the vehicle license plate number if a private agency certifies and agrees that the agency:

(1) is in the business of collecting accident and damage information on vehicles;

(2) will use the vehicle license plate number only for the purpose of identifying vehicles that have been involved in accidents or damaged in order to provide this information to persons seeking access to a vehicle's history and not for the purpose of identifying individuals or for any other purpose; and

(3) will be subject to the penalties and remedies under sections 13.08 and 13.09.

*[For text of subds 14 and 15, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 91 s 1; 1Sp2001 c 8 art 2 s 39-41

## **169.14 SPEED LIMITS, ZONES; RADAR.**

*[For text of subds 1 to 5c, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 5d. **Speed zoning in work zone; surcharge.** (a) The commissioner, on trunk highways and temporary trunk highways, and local authorities, on streets and highways under their jurisdiction, may authorize the use of reduced maximum speed limits in highway work zones. The commissioner or local authority is not required to conduct an engineering and traffic investigation before authorizing a reduced speed limit in a highway work zone.

(b) The minimum highway work zone speed limit is 20 miles per hour. The work zone speed limit must not reduce the established speed limit on the affected street or highway by more than 15 miles per hour, except that the highway work zone speed limit must not exceed 40 miles per hour. The commissioner or local authority shall post the limits of the work zone. Highway work zone speed limits are effective on erection of appropriate regulatory speed limit signs. The signs must be removed or covered when they are not required. A speed greater than the posted highway work zone speed limit is unlawful.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), on divided highways the commissioner or local authority may establish a highway work zone speed limit that does not exceed 55 miles per hour.

(d) For purposes of this subdivision, "highway work zone" means a segment of highway or street where a road authority or its agent is constructing, reconstructing, or maintaining the physical structure of the roadway, its shoulders, or features adjacent to the roadway, including underground and overhead utilities and highway appurtenances, when workers are present.

(e) Notwithstanding section 609.0331 or 609.101 or other law to the contrary, a person who violates a speed limit established under paragraph (b) or (c), or who violates any other provision of this section while in a highway work zone, is assessed an additional surcharge equal to the amount of the fine imposed for the speed violation, but not less than \$25.

*[For text of subds 5e to 12, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 213 s 9

## **169.18 DRIVING RULES.**

Subdivision 1. **Keep to the right.** Upon all roadways of sufficient width a vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the roadway, except as follows:

(1) when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction under the rules governing such movement;

(2) when the right half of a roadway is closed to traffic while under construction or repair;

(3) upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes for traffic under the rules applicable thereon;

(4) upon a roadway designated and signposted for one-way traffic as a one-way roadway; or

(5) as necessary to comply with subdivision 11 when approaching an authorized emergency vehicle parked or stopped on the roadway.

*[For text of subds 2 to 10, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 11. **Passing parked emergency vehicle.** When approaching and before passing an authorized emergency vehicle that is parked or otherwise stopped on or next to a street or highway having two or more lanes in the same direction, the driver of a vehicle shall safely move the vehicle to a lane away from the emergency vehicle.

**History:** 1Sp2001 c 8 art 2 s 42,43

## 169.20 RIGHT-OF-WAY.

*[For text of subds 1 to 4, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 5. **Emergency vehicle.** (a) Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle equipped with at least one lighted lamp exhibiting red light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet to the front of such vehicle and, except where otherwise not required by law, when the driver is giving audible signal by siren, the driver of each other vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to and as close as possible to the right-hand edge or curb of the highway clear of any intersection, and shall stop and remain in this position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer. The driver of another vehicle on a one-way roadway shall drive to the closest edge or curb and stop. The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle escorting the movement of a vehicle or load which is oversize or overweight need not sound an audible signal by siren but shall exhibit the light required by this paragraph. The driver of each other vehicle then shall yield the right-of-way, as required by this paragraph, to the emergency vehicle escorting the vehicle or load which is oversize or overweight.

(b) Upon the approach of an authorized emergency vehicle the driver of each streetcar shall immediately stop the car clear of any intersection and keep it in this position and keep the doors and gates of the streetcar closed until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

(c) A peace officer may arrest the driver of a motor vehicle if the peace officer has probable cause to believe that the driver has operated the vehicle in violation of paragraph (a) within the four-hour period following the termination of the emergency incident.

(d) This subdivision shall not operate to relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of persons using the highways.

*[For text of subds 5a to 7, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 24 s 2

## 169.38 [Repealed, 2001 c 24 s 5]

## 169.448 OTHER BUSES.

Subdivision 1. **Restrictions on appearance; misdemeanor.** (a) A bus that is not used as a school bus may not be operated on a street or highway unless it is painted a color significantly different than national school bus glossy yellow.

(b) A bus that is not used as a school bus or Head Start bus may not be operated if it is equipped with school bus or Head Start bus-related equipment and printing.

(c) A violation of this subdivision is a misdemeanor.

(d) This subdivision does not apply to a school bus owned by or under contract to a school district operated as a charter or leased bus.

(e) This subdivision does not apply to a school bus operated by a licensed child care provider if:

- (1) the stop arm is removed;
- (2) the light system is deactivated;
- (3) the school bus is identified as a "child care bus" in letters at least eight inches high on the front and rear top of the bus; and
- (4) the name, address, and telephone number of the owner or operator of the bus is identified on each front door of the bus in letters not less than three inches high.

*[For text of subs 2 and 3, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 97 s 2

#### **169.46 HITCHING BEHIND VEHICLE.**

No person shall hitch a toboggan, hand sled, bicycle, or other similar device onto any motor vehicle or streetcar while being used on a highway.

**History:** 2001 c 24 s 3

#### **169.50 REAR LAMPS.**

Subdivision 1. **Requirements; exception.** (a) Every motor vehicle and every vehicle that is being drawn at the end of a train of vehicles must be equipped with at least one tail lamp, exhibiting a red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear.

(b) Every motor vehicle, other than a truck-tractor, and every vehicle that is being drawn at the end of a train of vehicles, registered in this state and manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1960, must be equipped with at least two tail lamps mounted on the rear and on the same level and as widely spaced laterally as practicable. When lighted, the tail lamps must comply with the provisions of this section.

(c) An implement of husbandry being towed by a motor vehicle at a speed of not more than 30 miles per hour, displaying a slow-moving vehicle emblem, and complying with section 169.55, subdivision 2, clause (4), is not subject to the requirements of this section.

*[For text of subs 2 and 3, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 43 s 1

#### **169.67 BRAKES.**

*[For text of subs 1 and 2, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 3. **Trailer, semitrailer.** (a) No trailer or semitrailer with a gross weight of 3,000 or more pounds, or a gross weight that exceeds the empty weight of the towing vehicle, may be drawn on a highway unless it is equipped with brakes that are adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold the trailer or semitrailer. A surge brake on a trailer or semitrailer meets the requirement of this paragraph for brakes adequate to stop and hold the trailer or semitrailer.

(b) No trailer or semitrailer that is required to have brakes and that has a gross weight of more than 6,000 pounds may be drawn on a highway unless it is equipped with brakes that are so constructed that they are adequate to stop and hold the trailer or semitrailer whenever it becomes detached from the towing vehicle.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d), paragraph (a) does not apply to:

(1) a trailer used by a farmer while transporting farm products produced on the user's farm, or supplies back to the farm of the trailer's user;

(2) a towed custom service vehicle drawn by a motor vehicle that is equipped with brakes that meet the standards of subdivision 5, provided that such a towed custom service vehicle that exceeds 30,000 pounds gross weight may not be drawn at a speed of more than 45 miles per hour;

(3) a trailer or semitrailer operated or used by retail dealers of implements of husbandry while engaged exclusively in the delivery of implements of husbandry;

(4) a motor vehicle drawn by another motor vehicle that is equipped with brakes that meet the standards of subdivision 5;

(5) a tank trailer of not more than 12,000 pounds gross weight owned by a distributor of liquid fertilizer while engaged exclusively in transporting liquid fertilizer, or gaseous fertilizer under pressure;

(6) a trailer of not more than 12,000 pounds gross weight owned by a distributor of dry fertilizer while engaged exclusively in the transportation of dry fertilizer; and

(7) a disabled vehicle while being towed to a place of repair.

(d) Vehicles described in paragraph (c), clauses (1), (3), and (4), may be operated without complying with paragraph (a) only if the trailer or semitrailer does not exceed the following gross weights:

(1) 3,000 pounds while being drawn by a vehicle registered as a passenger automobile, other than a pickup truck as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 29;

(2) 12,000 pounds while being drawn by any other motor vehicle except a self-propelled implement of husbandry.

*[For text of subds 4 to 6, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 1Sp2001 c 8 art 2 s 44.

## 169.781 ANNUAL INSPECTION OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE.

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.2000]*

**Subd. 2. Inspection required.** It is unlawful for a person to operate or permit the operation of:

(1) a commercial motor vehicle registered in Minnesota; or

(2) special mobile equipment as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 22, if it is mounted on a commercial motor vehicle chassis, including, but not limited to, a mobile crane, a water well-drilling rig, and a concrete-placement pumper,

unless the vehicle displays a valid safety inspection decal issued by an inspector certified by the commissioner, or the vehicle carries (1) proof that the vehicle complies with federal motor vehicle inspection requirements for vehicles in interstate commerce, and (2) a certificate of compliance with federal requirements issued by the commissioner under subdivision 9.

*[For text of subds 3 and 4, see M.S.2000]*

**Subd. 5. Inspection decal.** (a) A person inspecting a commercial motor vehicle shall issue an inspection decal for the vehicle if each inspected component of the vehicle complies with federal motor carrier safety regulations. The decal must state that in the month specified on the decal the vehicle was inspected and each inspected component complied with federal motor carrier safety regulations. The decal is valid for 12 months after the month specified on the decal. The commissioners of public safety and transportation shall make decals available, at a fee of not more than \$2 for each decal, to persons certified to perform inspections under subdivision 3, paragraph (b).

(b) Minnesota inspection decals may be affixed only to:

(1) commercial motor vehicles bearing Minnesota-based license plates; or

(2) special mobile equipment, within the meaning of subdivision 2, clause (2).

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a person inspecting (1) a vehicle of less than 57,000 pounds gross vehicle weight and registered as a farm truck, (2) a storage semitrailer, or (3) a building mover vehicle must issue an inspection decal to the vehicle unless the vehicle has one or more defects that would result in the vehicle being declared out of service under the North American Uniform Driver, Vehicle, and Hazardous Materials Out-of-Service Criteria issued by the Federal Highway Administration and the commercial motor vehicle safety alliance. A decal issued to a vehicle described in clause (1), (2), or (3) is valid for two years from the date of issuance. A

decal issued to such a vehicle must clearly indicate that it is valid for two years from the date of issuance.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), a commercial motor vehicle that (1) is registered as a farm truck, (2) is not operated more than 75 miles from the owner's home post office, and (3) was manufactured before 1979 that has a dual transmission system, is not required to comply with a requirement in an inspection standard that requires that the service brake system and parking brake system be separate systems in the motor vehicle.

*[For text of subds 6 to 10, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 188 s 2,3

## **169.79 VEHICLE REGISTRATION; DISPLAYING LICENSE PLATES.**

**Subdivision 1. Registration required.** No person shall operate, drive, or park a motor vehicle on any highway unless the vehicle is registered in accordance with the laws of this state and has the number plates or permit confirming that valid registration or operating authority has been obtained, except as provided in sections 168.10 and 168.12, subdivision 2f, as assigned to it by the commissioner of public safety, conspicuously displayed thereon in a manner that the view of any plate or permit is not obstructed. A plate issued under section 168.27 or a permit issued under chapter 168 may be displayed on a vehicle in conjunction with expired registration whether or not it displays the license plate to which the last registration was issued.

**Subd. 2. Semitrailer.** If the vehicle is a semitrailer, the number plate displayed must be assigned to the registered owner and correlate to the certificate of title documentation on file with the department and shall not display a year indicator.

**Subd. 3. Motorcycle.** If the vehicle is a motorcycle, motor scooter, motorized bicycle, motorcycle sidecar, trailer, semitrailer, or vehicle displaying a dealer plate, one plate must be displayed on the rear of the vehicle.

**Subd. 4. Collector's vehicle.** If the vehicle is (1) a collector's vehicle with a pioneer, classic car, collector, or street rod license; (2) a vehicle that meets the requirements of a pioneer, classic, or street rod vehicle except that the vehicle is used for general transportation purposes; or (3) a vehicle that is of model year 1972 or earlier, not registered under section 168.10, subdivision 1c, and is used for general transportation purposes, one plate must be displayed on the rear of the vehicle; or one plate on the front and one on the rear, at the discretion of the owner.

**Subd. 5. Truck-tractor, road-tractor, or farm truck.** If the vehicle is a truck-tractor, road-tractor, or farm truck, as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 17, but excluding from that definition semitrailers and trailers, one plate must be displayed on the front of the vehicle.

**Subd. 6. Other motor vehicles.** If the motor vehicle is any kind of motor vehicle other than those provided for in paragraphs (b) to (d), one plate must be displayed on the front and one on the rear of the vehicle.

**Subd. 7. Plate fastened and visible.** All plates must be securely fastened so as to prevent them from swinging. The person driving the motor vehicle shall keep the plate legible and unobstructed and free from grease, dust, or other blurring material so that the lettering is plainly visible at all times. It is unlawful to cover any assigned letters and numbers or the name of the state of origin of a license plate with any material whatever, including any clear or colorless material that affects the plate's visibility or reflectivity.

**Subd. 8. Plate registration stickers.** License plates issued to vehicles registered under section 168.017 must display the month of expiration in the lower left corner as viewed facing the plate and the year of expiration in the lower right corner as viewed facing the plate. License plates issued to vehicles registered under section 168.127 must display either fleet registration validation stickers in the lower right corner as viewed



facing the plates or distinctive license plates, issued by the registrar, with "FLEET REG" embossed on the bottom center portion of the plate.

**History:** *1Sp2001 c 8 art 2 s 45*

## **169.80 SIZE, WEIGHT, LOAD.**

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 2. **Outside width.** (a) The total outside width of a vehicle exclusive of rearview mirrors or load securement devices which are not an integral part of the vehicle and not exceeding three inches on each side, or the load may not exceed 102 inches except that the outside width of a vehicle owned by a political subdivision and used exclusively for the purpose of handling sewage sludge from sewage treatment facilities to farm fields or disposal sites, may not exceed 12 feet, and except as otherwise provided in this section.

(b) A vehicle exceeding 102 inches in total outside width, owned by a political subdivision and used for the purpose of transporting or applying sewage sludge to farm fields or disposal sites may not transport sludge for distances greater than 15 miles, nor may it be used for transportation of sewage sludge or return travel between the hours of sunset and sunrise, or at any other time when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog, or other conditions rendering persons and vehicles not clearly discernible on the highway at a distance of 500 feet.

(c) The total outside width of a low bed trailer or equipment dolly, and the load, used exclusively for transporting farm machinery and construction equipment may not exceed nine feet in width except that a low bed trailer or equipment dolly with a total outside width, including the load, in excess of 102 inches may not be operated on any interstate highway without first having obtained a permit for the operation under section 169.86. The vehicle must display 12-inch square red flags as markers at the front and rear of the left side of the vehicle.

(d) The total outside width of a passenger motor bus, operated exclusively in a city or contiguous cities in this state, may not exceed nine feet.

(e) The maximum width limitation in paragraph (a) for recreational equipment as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 25, is exclusive of appurtenances on the recreational equipment that do not extend beyond the width of the exterior rearview mirror of the recreational equipment if the recreational equipment is self-propelled, or the exterior rearview mirror of the towing vehicle if the recreational equipment is towed.

*[For text of subd 3, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** *2001 c 24 s 4; 2001 c 83 s 1*

## **169.81 HEIGHT AND LENGTH LIMITATIONS.**

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 2. **Length of single vehicle; exceptions.** (a) Statewide, no single vehicle may exceed 40 feet in overall length, including load and front and rear bumpers, except:

- (1) mobile cranes, which may not exceed 48 feet in overall length;
- (2) buses, which may not exceed 45 feet in overall length; and
- (3) type A, B, or C motor homes as defined in section 168.011, subdivision 25; paragraph (c), which may not exceed 45 feet in overall length.

(b) Statewide, no semitrailer may exceed 48 feet in overall length, including bumper and load, but excluding non-cargo-carrying equipment, such as refrigeration units or air compressors, necessary for safe and efficient operation and located on the end of the semitrailer adjacent to the truck-tractor. However, statewide, a single semitrailer may exceed 48 feet, but not 53 feet, if the distance from the kingpin to the centerline of the rear axle group of the semitrailer does not exceed 43 feet.

(c) Statewide, no single trailer may have an overall length exceeding 45 feet, including the tow bar assembly but exclusive of rear bumpers that do not increase the overall length by more than six inches.

(d) For determining compliance with this subdivision, the length of the semitrailer or trailer must be determined separately from the overall length of the combination of vehicles.

(e) No semitrailer or trailer used in a three-vehicle combination may have an overall length in excess of 28-1/2 feet, exclusive of:

(1) non-cargo-carrying accessory equipment, including refrigeration units or air compressors and upper coupler plates, necessary for safe and efficient operation, located on the end of the semitrailer or trailer adjacent to the truck or truck-tractor;

(2) the tow bar assembly; and

(3) lower coupler equipment that is a fixed part of the rear end of the first semitrailer or trailer.

*[For text of subds 2a to 10, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 83 s 2

## **169.825 WEIGHT LIMITATIONS.**

*[For text of subds 1 to 10, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 11. **Gross weight seasonal increases.** (a) The limitations provided in this section are increased:

(1) by ten percent between the dates set by the commissioner based on a freezing index model each winter, statewide;

(2) by ten percent between the dates set by the commissioner based on a freezing index model each winter, in the zone bounded as follows: beginning at Pigeon River in the northeast corner of Minnesota; thence in a southwesterly direction along the north shore of Lake Superior along trunk highway No. 61 to the junction with trunk highway No. 210; thence westerly along trunk highway No. 210 to the junction with trunk highway No. 10; thence northwesterly along trunk highway No. 10 to the Minnesota-North Dakota border; thence northerly along that border to the Minnesota-Canadian Border; thence easterly along said Border to Lake Superior; and

(3) by ten percent from the beginning of harvest to November 30 each year for the movement of sugar beets, carrots, and potatoes from the field of harvest to the point of the first unloading. Transfer of the product from a farm vehicle or small farm trailer, within the meaning of chapter 168, to another vehicle is not considered to be the first unloading. The commissioner shall not issue permits under this clause if to do so will result in a loss of federal highway funding to the state.

(b) The duration of a ten percent increase in load limits is subject to limitation by order of the commissioner, subject to implementation of springtime load restrictions.

(c) When the ten percent increase is in effect, a permit is required for a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer combination that has a gross weight in excess of 80,000 pounds, an axle group weight in excess of that prescribed in subdivision 10, or a single axle weight in excess of 20,000 pounds and which travels on interstate routes.

(d) In cases where gross weights in an amount less than that set forth in this section are fixed, limited, or restricted on a highway or bridge by or under another section of this chapter, the lesser gross weight as fixed, limited, or restricted may not be exceeded and must control instead of the gross weights set forth in this section.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, no vehicle may exceed a total gross vehicle weight of 80,000 pounds on routes which have not been designated by the commissioner under section 169.832, subdivision 11.

(f) The commissioner may, after determining the ability of the highway structure and frost condition to support additional loads, grant a permit extending seasonal

increases for vehicles using portions of routes falling within two miles of the southern boundary of the zone described under paragraph (a), clause (2).

*[For text of subds 12a to 17, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 156 s 1; 2001 c 213 s 10

**169.901** [Repealed, 2001 c 24 s 5].

**169.966 BOARD TO REGULATE TRAFFIC ON STATE UNIVERSITIES.**

Subdivision 1. **Authority.** The board of trustees of the Minnesota state colleges and universities may from time to time make, adopt, and enforce such rules or ordinances not inconsistent with this chapter, as it may find expedient or necessary relating to the regulation of traffic and parking upon parking facilities and private roads and roadways situated on property owned, leased, occupied, or operated by state universities.

Subd. 1a. **Parking facilities.** The board of trustees may establish rents, charges, or fees for the use of parking facilities owned, leased, occupied, or operated by the board. The money collected by the board as rents, charges, or fees in accordance with this subdivision shall be deposited in the university activity fund and is annually appropriated to the board of trustees for state university purposes and to maintain and operate parking lots and parking facilities.

Subd. 2. **Petty misdemeanor.** Any person violating such rule or ordinance shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor and subject to the provisions of sections 169.891 and 169.90, subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. **Prosecution.** The prosecution may be before a district court having jurisdiction over the place where the violation occurs.

Subd. 4. **Enforcement.** Every sheriff, constable, police officer, or other peace officer shall see that all rules and ordinances are obeyed and shall arrest and prosecute offenders.

Subd. 5. **Enforcement powers.** The board of trustees may appoint and employ, and fix the compensation to be paid out of funds which may be available for such purposes, persons who shall have and may exercise on property owned, leased, or occupied by the state universities the same powers of arrest for violation of rules or ordinances adopted by the board as possessed by a sheriff, constable, police officer, or peace officer.

Subd. 6. **Judicial notice.** All persons shall take notice of such rules and ordinances without pleading and proof of the same.

Subd. 7. **Notice, hearing, filing, and effect.** (a) The board of trustees shall fix a date for a public hearing on the adoption of any such proposed rule or ordinance. Notice of such hearing shall be published in a legal newspaper in the county in which the property affected by the rule or ordinance is located. The publication shall be at least 15 days and not more than 45 days before the date of the hearing.

(b) If, after the public hearing, the proposed rule or ordinance shall be adopted by a majority of the members of the board, the same shall be considered to have been enacted by the board. A copy of the same shall be signed by the president and filed with the county recorder of each county where the rule or ordinance shall be in effect, together with proof of publication. Upon such filing, the rule or ordinance, as the case may be, shall thenceforth be in full force and effect.

Subd. 8. **Delegation.** The board of trustees may delegate its responsibilities under this section to a state university president. Actions of the president shall be presumed to be those of the board. The university president shall file with the board president the results of any public hearings and the subsequent adoption of any proposed rule or ordinance enacted pursuant thereto.

**History:** 1Sp2001 c 1 art 2 s 19

**169.974 MOTORCYCLE, MOTOR SCOOTER, MOTOR BIKE.**

*[For text of subds 1 and 2, see M.S.2000]*

Subd. 3. **Vehicle equipment.** (a) Any motorcycle with a seat designed or suited for use by a passenger shall be equipped with foot rests for the passenger. No person shall operate any motorcycle on the streets and highways after January 1, 1971, unless such motorcycle is equipped with at least one rear view mirror so attached and adjusted as to reflect to the operator a view of the roadway for a distance of at least 200 feet to the rear of the motorcycle and is equipped with not less than one horn which shall be audible at a distance of at least 200 feet under normal conditions.

(b) All other applicable provisions of this chapter pertaining to motorcycle and other motor vehicle equipment shall apply to motorcycles, except those which by their nature have no application.

*[For text of subds 4 to 7, see M.S.2000]*

**History:** 2001 c 60 s 1