

SENATE BILL NO. 48

BY SENATORS HEBERT AND WALSWORTH

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 32:299.2 and to repeal R.S. 32:297.1, relative to off-road vehicles; to provide
3 relative to mini-trucks; to provide for registration of mini-trucks; to authorize
4 operation of mini-trucks on certain highways of this state under certain
5 circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 32:299.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 **§299.2. Off-road vehicles; mini-trucks**

9 **A. A mini-truck may be operated upon a highway of this state where the**
10 **posted speed limit is fifty-five miles per hour or less except an interstate or**
11 **controlled access highway or a multi-lane divided highway which has partial or**
12 **no control of access.**

13 **B. Subject to Subsection A of this Section, a mini-truck operated upon**
14 **a highway of this state shall be equipped with head lamps, front and rear turn**
15 **signal lamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, an exterior mirror mounted on the driver's**
16 **side of the vehicle and either an exterior mirror mounted on the passenger's**
17 **side of the vehicle or an interior mirror, a parking brake, a windshield wiper,**
18 **speedometer, odometer, braking for each wheel, a seat belt assembly installed**
19 **at each designated seating position, and a vehicle identification number.**

20 **C. Any mini-truck operated upon a highway of this state shall register**
21 **as an off-road vehicle and shall display a decal issued by the office of motor**
22 **vehicles. The office of motor vehicles may require presentation of a notarized**
23 **translation of a mini-truck title presented in a foreign language, if necessary.**
24 **The translation shall be provided at the expense of the applicant.**

25 **D. No mini-truck shall be operated upon a highway of this state by an**
26 **unlicensed driver.**

27 **E. Any mini-truck operated upon a highway of this state shall have**

1 liability insurance with the same minimum limits as required by the provisions
2 of R.S. 32:900(B).

3 F. As used in this Section, "mini-truck" shall mean any four-wheeled,
4 reduced dimension truck that may not have a National Highway Safety
5 Administration classification, with a top speed of sixty-five miles per hour,
6 equipped with a truck bed or compartment for hauling, and having an enclosed
7 passenger cab.

8 G. The Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor
9 vehicles, shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the
10 Administrative Procedure Act, subject to oversight by the House and Senate
11 committees on transportation, highways, and public works, as necessary to
12 implement the provisions of this Section.

13 H.(1) Nothing contained in this Section shall be construed to prohibit the
14 Department of Transportation and Development from prohibiting the operation
15 of any mini-truck upon any state highway under its jurisdiction if the
16 department determines that such prohibition is necessary for the safety of the
17 motoring public.

18 (2) Nothing contained in this Section shall be construed to prohibit
19 parish or municipal governments from prohibiting the operation of any mini-
20 truck upon any parish or municipal road or highway under its jurisdiction if
21 such parish or municipal government determines that such prohibition is
22 necessary for the safety of the motoring public.

23 Section 2. R.S. 32:297.1 is hereby repealed.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____