

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 409

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS.

0873H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 304.170, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to articulated buses.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 304.170, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 304.170, to read as follows:

304.170. 1. No vehicle operated upon the highways of this state shall have a width, including load, in excess of one hundred two inches, except clearance lights, rearview mirrors or other accessories required by federal, state or city law or regulation. Provided however, a recreational vehicle as defined in section 700.010 may exceed the foregoing width limits if the appurtenances on such recreational vehicle extend no further than the rearview mirrors. Such mirrors may only extend the distance necessary to provide the required field of view before the appurtenances were attached.

2. No vehicle operated upon the interstate highway system or upon any route designated by the chief engineer of the state transportation department shall have a height, including load, in excess of fourteen feet. On all other highways, no vehicle shall have a height, including load, in excess of thirteen and one-half feet, except that any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting automobiles or other motor vehicles may have a height, including load, of not more than fourteen feet.

3. No single motor vehicle operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length, including load, in excess of forty-five feet, except as otherwise provided in this section.

4. No bus, recreational motor vehicle or trackless trolley coach operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length in excess of forty-five feet, except that such vehicles

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 may exceed the forty-five ~~[feet]~~ **foot** length when such excess length is caused by the projection
19 of a front safety bumper or a rear safety bumper or both, **and such vehicles may exceed the**
20 **forty-five foot length, but shall not be more than sixty feet in length, when such buses are**
21 **articulated. The term "articulated bus" means a bus having two or more sections**
22 **connected by a flexible joint or other mechanism.** Such safety bumper shall not cause the
23 length of the bus or recreational motor vehicle to exceed the forty-five feet length limit by more
24 than one foot in the front and one foot in the rear. The term "safety bumper" means any device
25 which may be fitted on an existing bumper or which replaces the bumper and is so constructed,
26 treated, or manufactured that it absorbs energy upon impact. **Notwithstanding any provision**
27 **of this subsection or any other law, an articulated bus may be up to sixty feet in length, not**
28 **including safety bumpers which may extend one foot in the front of the bus and one foot**
29 **in the rear of the bus, and not including bicycle storage racks which may extend over the**
30 **safety bumper by up to five feet when in the down position while transporting a bicycle.**

31 5. No combination of truck-tractor and semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with
32 dromedary and semitrailer operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length, including
33 load, in excess of sixty feet; except that in order to comply with the provisions of [~~Title 23 of the~~
34 ~~United States Code (Public Law 97-424)] **Pub. L. 97-424 codified in Title 23 of the United**
35 **States Code (23 U.S.C. Section 101, et al.), as amended,** no combination of truck-tractor and
36 semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and semitrailer operated upon the interstate
37 highway system of this state shall have an overall length, including load, in excess of the length
38 of the truck-tractor plus the semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and semitrailer.
39 The length of such semitrailer shall not exceed fifty-three feet.~~

40 6. In order to comply with the provisions of [~~Title 23 of the United States Code (Public~~
41 ~~Law 97-424)] **Pub. L. 97-424 codified in Title 23 of the United States Code (23 U.S.C.**
42 **Section 101, et al.), as amended,** no combination of truck-tractor, semitrailer and trailer
43 operated upon the interstate highway system of this state shall have an overall length, including
44 load, in excess of the length of the truck-tractor plus the semitrailer and trailer, neither of which
45 semitrailer or trailer shall exceed twenty-eight feet in length, except that any existing semitrailer
46 or trailer up to twenty-eight and one-half feet in length actually and lawfully operated on
47 December 1, 1982, within a sixty-five foot overall length limit in any state, may continue to be
48 operated upon the interstate highways of this state. On those primary highways not designated
49 by the state highways and transportation commission as provided in subsection 10 of this section,
50 no combination of truck-tractor, semitrailer and trailer shall have an overall length, including
51 load, in excess of sixty-five feet; provided, however, the state highways and transportation
52 commission may designate additional routes for such sixty-five foot combinations.~~

53 7. Automobile transporters, boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter combinations,
54 stinger-steered combination automobile transporters and stinger-steered combination boat
55 transporters having a length not in excess of seventy-five feet may be operated on the interstate
56 highways of this state and such other highways as may be designated by the highways and
57 transportation commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a distance not to exceed ten
58 miles from such interstate or designated highway. All length provisions regarding automobile
59 or boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter combinations and stinger-steered combinations
60 shall include a semitrailer length not to exceed fifty-three feet and are exclusive of front and rear
61 overhang, which shall be no greater than a three-foot front overhang and no greater than a
62 four-foot rear overhang.

63 8. Driveaway saddlemount combinations having a length not in excess of ninety-seven
64 feet may be operated on the interstate highways of this state and such other highways as may be
65 designated by the highways and transportation commission for the operation of such vehicles
66 plus a distance not to exceed ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. Saddlemount
67 combinations must comply with the safety requirements of Section 393.71 of Title 49 of the
68 Code of Federal Regulations and may contain no more than three saddlemounted vehicles and
69 one fullmount.

70 9. No truck-tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination vehicles operated upon the
71 interstate and designated primary highway system of this state shall have a semitrailer length in
72 excess of twenty-eight feet or twenty-eight and one-half feet if the semitrailer was in actual and
73 lawful operation in any state on December 1, 1982, operating in a truck-tractor
74 semitrailer-semitrailer combination. The B-train assembly is excluded from the measurement
75 of semitrailer length when used between the first and second semitrailer of a truck-tractor
76 semitrailer-semitrailer combination, except that when there is no semitrailer mounted to the
77 B-train assembly, it shall be included in the length measurement of the semitrailer.

78 10. The highways and transportation commission is authorized to designate routes on
79 the state highway system other than the interstate system over which those combinations of
80 vehicles of the lengths specified in subsections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of this section may be operated.
81 Combinations of vehicles operated under the provisions of subsections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of this
82 section may be operated at a distance not to exceed ten miles from the interstate system and such
83 routes as designated under the provisions of this subsection.

84 11. Except as provided in subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of this section, no other
85 combination of vehicles operated upon the primary or interstate highways of this state plus a
86 distance of ten miles from a primary or interstate highway shall have an overall length, unladen
87 or with load, in excess of sixty-five feet or in excess of fifty-five feet on any other highway,
88 except the state highways and transportation commission may designate additional routes for use

89 by sixty-five foot combinations, seventy-five foot stinger-steered combinations or seventy-five
90 foot saddlemount combinations. Any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting
91 automobiles, boats or other motor vehicles may carry a load which extends no more than three
92 feet beyond the front and four feet beyond the rear of the transporting vehicle or combination of
93 vehicles.

94 12. (1) Except as hereinafter provided, these restrictions shall not apply to agricultural
95 implements operating occasionally on the highways for short distances including tractor parades
96 for fund-raising activities or special events, provided the tractors are driven by licensed drivers
97 during daylight hours only and with the approval of the superintendent of the Missouri state
98 highway patrol; or to self-propelled hay-hauling equipment or to implements of husbandry, or
99 to the movement of farm products as defined in section 400.9-102 or to vehicles temporarily
100 transporting agricultural implements or implements of husbandry or road-making machinery, or
101 road materials or towing for repair purposes vehicles that have become disabled upon the
102 highways; or to implement dealers delivering or moving farm machinery for repairs on any state
103 highway other than the interstate system.

104 (2) Implements of husbandry and vehicles transporting such machinery or equipment and
105 the movement of farm products as defined in section 400.9-102 may be operated occasionally
106 for short distances on state highways when operated between the hours of sunrise and sunset by
107 a driver licensed as an operator or chauffeur.

108 13. As used in this chapter the term "implements of husbandry" means all self-propelled
109 machinery operated at speeds of less than thirty miles per hour, specifically designed for, or
110 especially adapted to be capable of, incidental over-the-road and primary offroad usage and used
111 exclusively for the application of commercial plant food materials or agricultural chemicals, and
112 not specifically designed or intended for transportation of such chemicals and materials.

113 14. Sludge disposal units may be operated on all state highways other than the interstate
114 system. Such units shall not exceed one hundred thirty-eight inches in width and may be
115 equipped with over-width tires. Such units shall observe all axle weight limits. The chief
116 engineer of the state transportation department shall issue special permits for the movement of
117 such disposal units and may by such permits restrict the movements to specified routes, days and
118 hours.

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