

HOUSE BILL 186

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2024

INTRODUCED BY

Joseph L. Sanchez

AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; RAISING THE APPARENT DAMAGE AMOUNT FOR A VEHICLE ACCIDENT THAT REQUIRES A WRITTEN REPORT OF THE ACCIDENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FROM FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500) TO ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000).

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 66-7-207 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978, Chapter 35, Section 396, as amended) is amended to read:

"66-7-207. WRITTEN REPORTS OF ACCIDENTS.--

A. The driver of a vehicle involved in an accident resulting in bodily injury to or death of any person or total property damage to an apparent extent of [~~five hundred dollars~~ ~~(\$500)~~] one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more shall, within five days after the accident, forward a written report of the accident to the department of transportation.

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1 B. The department of transportation may require any
2 driver of a vehicle involved in an accident of which report
3 must be made as provided in this section to file supplemental
4 reports whenever the original report is insufficient in the
5 opinion of the department of transportation and may require
6 witnesses of accidents to render reports concerning the
7 accidents to the department of transportation.

8 C. Every law enforcement officer who, in the
9 regular course of duty, investigates a motor vehicle accident
10 of which report must be made as required in this section,
11 either at the time of and at the scene of the accident or
12 thereafter by interviewing participants or witnesses, shall,
13 within twenty-four hours after completing the investigation,
14 forward a written report of the accident to the department of
15 transportation. A law enforcement officer shall also, within
16 twenty-four hours after completing the investigation, forward
17 the written report of the accident to the motor transportation
18 division of the department of public safety if the accident
19 involves a commercial motor vehicle and results in:

20 (1) bodily injury to any person and the person
21 is transported to a medical facility for immediate medical
22 attention;

23 (2) the death of any person; or

24 (3) any vehicle involved in the accident being
25 towed from the scene due to disabling damage caused by the

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accident."

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2024.