

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 29, 2021

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 2053

By: McCall of the House

5 and

6 Standridge of the Senate

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8
9 An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S.
10 2011, Section 12-405, which relates to tires and
11 wheels; requiring officers issuing citation make
12 certain notation; and providing an effective date.

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2011, Section 12-405, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 12-405. A. Every solid rubber tire on a vehicle shall
18 have rubber on its entire traction surface at least one (1) inch
19 thick above the edge of the flange of the entire periphery.

20 B. A person shall not operate or move on any hard-surfaced
21 highway any vehicle having any metal tire in contact with the
22 roadway, except when authorized by special permit as provided in
23 subsection E of this section.

1 C. 1. Any tire on a vehicle moved on a highway shall not have
2 on its periphery any block, stud, flange, cleat or spike or any
3 other protuberance of any material other than rubber which projects
4 beyond the tread of the traction surface of the tire, except that it
5 shall be permissible:

6 a. to use farm tractors or implements of husbandry with
7 tires having protuberances which will not injure the
8 highway,

9 b. to use tire chains of reasonable proportions upon any
10 vehicle when required for safety because of snow, ice,
11 or other conditions tending to cause a vehicle to
12 skid, or

13 c. for pneumatic tires equipped with or having on their
14 periphery studs of metal, porcelain or other material
15 to be sold or used in this state, if constructed to
16 provide resiliency upon contact with the road surface,
17 so that not more than three percent (3%) in the
18 aggregate of the traction surface of such tire be
19 composed of such studs and so that such studs do not
20 project more than three thirty-seconds (3/32) of an
21 inch beyond the tread of the traction surface of such
22 tire and have a rate of wear which will so limit such
23 projection.

1 2. The exceptions permitted in paragraph 1 of this subsection
2 shall be subject to the following restrictions:

3 a. the use of such tires or tire chains shall be limited
4 to vehicles with rated capacities up to and including
5 two (2) tons,

6 b. any tire so equipped shall not be used on a public
7 highway earlier than November 1 of each year or later
8 than April 1 of the following year, and

9 c. copies of this subsection shall be posted in all
10 places at which tires or tire chains are sold, and a
11 printed or written warning on the time limitation for
12 the use of such tires or tire chains shall be
13 furnished to each buyer, purchaser, or user by the
14 seller of such studded tires or tire chains.

15 D. Operator selectable "on demand" studded tires having
16 traction-enhancing studs located outside the normal tread area which
17 allows their operation as conventional tires on dry roads or as
18 studded tires on ice-coated roads by the expedient of reducing or
19 increasing the air pressure within the tires, shall be exempt from
20 the prohibitions of subsection C of this section with the following
21 exceptions:

22 1. The use of such tires shall be limited to vehicles with
23 rated capacities up to and including two (2) tons;

1 2. Any such tire shall not be deflated so that the studs lower
2 and make contact with the road surface earlier than November 1 of
3 each year or later than April 1 of the following year.

4 E. The Department of Public Safety and local authorities in
5 their respective jurisdictions may in their discretion issue special
6 permits authorizing the operation upon a highway of traction engines
7 or tractors having movable tracks with transverse corrugations upon
8 the periphery of such movable tracks or farm tractors or other farm
9 machinery, the operation of which upon a highway would otherwise be
10 prohibited under this section.

11 F. A person shall not operate any vehicle when one or more of
12 the tires in use on that vehicle is in unsafe operating condition or
13 has a tread depth less than two-thirty-seconds (2/32) inch measured
14 in any two adjacent tread grooves at three equally spaced intervals
15 around the circumference of the tire; provided, such measurements
16 shall not be made at the location of any tread wear indicator, tie
17 bar, hump, or fillet. In the event a citation is issued under this
18 subsection, the officer shall include the tread depth of the
19 offending tire on the citation. As used in this subsection, an
20 unsafe tire includes, but is not limited to, any tire:

- 21 1. On which the ply or cord is exposed in the tread area;
- 22 2. Which has been regrooved or recut below the original groove
23 depth, except tires that have been designed with under-rubber
24 sufficient for regrooving and are so marked;

1 3. Marked "Farm Implement Only", "Not for Highway Use", or any
2 other marking that would indicate that the tire is not for normal
3 highway use; provided, no such marking shall be altered or removed;

4 4. On which any bulges, bumps, or knots show in the tread or
5 sidewall area; or

6 5. On the front steering axle of a truck-tractor which has
7 tread depth measuring less than four-thirty-seconds (4/32) inch.

8 G. Every wheel on a vehicle shall not be cracked and shall be
9 securely fastened to the hub of the vehicle with all lug nuts
10 properly affixed.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

12 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
13 March 29, 2021 - DO PASS

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