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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1505 Session of  
2014

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INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, SCHWANK, EICHELBERGER, ALLOWAY, BREWSTER  
AND BRUBAKER, OCTOBER 21, 2014

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REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, OCTOBER 21, 2014

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AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in general provisions relating to operation of  
3 vehicles, further providing for obedience to authorized  
4 persons directing traffic; and providing for drivers of  
5 certified escort vehicles; in other required equipment,  
6 further providing for identification of certain vehicles;  
7 and, in size, weight and load, further providing for scope  
8 and application of chapter and for conditions of permits and  
9 security for damages.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. Section 3102 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania  
13 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

14 § 3102. Obedience to authorized persons directing traffic.

15 No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any  
16 lawful order or direction of:

17 (1) any uniformed police officer, sheriff or constable  
18 or, in an emergency, a railroad or street railway police  
19 officer; [or]

20 (2) any appropriately attired person, including an agent  
21 or employee of the funeral director during a funeral,

1 authorized to direct, control or regulate traffic [or an];

2 (3) any employee who has been trained in traffic control  
3 by a licensed and insured private security company and who is  
4 acting in the scope of employment[.]; or

5 (4) any driver of a certified escort vehicle as defined  
6 under section 3108 (relating to drivers of certified escort  
7 vehicles) and who is acting in the capacity as a driver of a  
8 certified escort vehicle.

9 Section 2. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:  
10 § 3108. Drivers of certified escort vehicles.

11 (a) General rule.--The driver of a certified escort vehicle  
12 that is being operated to escort a super load must be certified  
13 and licensed by the department and wear attire that complies  
14 with 67 Pa. Code § 101.3(5) (relating to minimum attire).

15 (b) Criteria to be established.--Within one year of the  
16 effective date of this section, the department shall establish  
17 criteria for certified escort vehicles and for determining  
18 certification and licensing of drivers of certified escort  
19 vehicles within this Commonwealth and shall post the criteria on  
20 the department's publicly accessible Internet website.

21 (c) Definitions.--The following words and phrases when used  
22 in this section shall have the meanings given to them in this  
23 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

24 "Certified escort vehicle." A vehicle that is operated to  
25 escort a super load on a highway of this Commonwealth.

26 "Super load." A vehicle or combination or load having a  
27 gross weight exceeding 201,000 pounds, a total length exceeding  
28 160 feet or a total width exceeding 16 feet. The term does not  
29 include any of the following:

30 (1) A building under 67 Pa. Code § 179.11 (relating to

1 special vehicle-load restrictions).

2 (2) A vehicle or combination moved across the highway  
3 under section 4965 (relating to single permits for multiple  
4 highway crossings) or 4966 (relating to permit for movement  
5 of quarry equipment).

6 (3) A drag line moved across a highway under permit.

7 Section 3. Sections 4573 and 4901(c) of Title 75 are amended  
8 to read:

9 § 4573. Identification of certain vehicles.

10 (a) Commercial tow trucks.--Any truck which is used  
11 commercially to tow other motor vehicles shall have the name of  
12 the business, or person, operating [such] the truck displayed on  
13 signs on both sides of [such] the truck.

14 (b) Certified escort vehicle.--Any certified escort vehicle  
15 which is used to escort a super load as defined in section 3108  
16 (relating to drivers of certified escort vehicles) shall display  
17 the department's certification emblem, may use flashing or  
18 revolving yellow lights in accordance with sections 4572  
19 (relating to visual signals on authorized vehicles) and 6107  
20 (relating to designation of authorized vehicles by department)  
21 and shall comply with other department regulations, including  
22 those pertaining to pilot cars.

23 § 4901. Scope and application of chapter.

24 \* \* \*

25 (c) Permit authorizing prohibited movement.--If an  
26 overweight or oversize movement cannot be made in any other  
27 feasible manner, the permit may authorize the movement to be  
28 made in contravention to any provision of this title provided  
29 that:

30 (1) the department or local authority determines that

1 the movement is in the public interest; and

2 (2) the movement is escorted by [the Pennsylvania State  
3 Police, extra-duty Pennsylvania State Police or department  
4 personnel. When the movement is escorted by extra-duty  
5 Pennsylvania State Police or department personnel,] certified  
6 escort vehicles as defined under section 3108 (relating to  
7 drivers of certified escort vehicles) or the Pennsylvania  
8 State Police and the following shall apply:

9 (i) [Approval must be obtained from the Pennsylvania  
10 State Police or the department for the use of their  
11 respective personnel.] The department, in consultation  
12 with the Pennsylvania State Police, shall determine  
13 whether a Pennsylvania State Police escort is necessary.

14 (ii) [The] If it is jointly determined by the  
15 Pennsylvania State Police and the department that the  
16 movement must be escorted by the Pennsylvania State  
17 Police, the permittee shall bear the total costs of  
18 escorting the movement.

19 \* \* \*

20 Section 4. Section 4962(d) of Title 75 is amended and the  
21 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

22 § 4962. Conditions of permits and security for damages.

23 \* \* \*

24 (d) Special escort services.--The department or local  
25 authorities shall specify what movements require special escort  
26 services of the Pennsylvania State Police, local police or  
27 department personnel as determined under section 4901(c)(2)  
28 (relating to scope and application of chapter).

29 \* \* \*

30 (f.6) One certified escort vehicle.--

1           (1) A super load, as defined in section 3108(c)  
2           (relating to drivers of certified escort vehicles), shall be  
3           required to maintain one certified escort vehicle under  
4           section 4573(b) (relating to identification of certain  
5           vehicles) unless otherwise determined under section 4901(c)  
6           that an additional certified escort vehicle or a Pennsylvania  
7           State Police escort is necessary.

8           (2) The requirements of this subsection are in addition  
9           to, not in lieu of, all other pilot car requirements for the  
10           super load movement.

11           \* \* \*

12           Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.