

HOUSE BILL 1522

By Matlock

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 5,  
Chapter 8, Part 1; Title 55 and Title 67, relative to  
registration of trailers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-111(a)(1), is amended by deleting all language under the heading "Class (D)" and substituting instead the following:

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| (i) Trailers with one (1) axle              | 25.00 |
| (ii) Trailers with two (2) axles            | 35.00 |
| (iii) Trailers with three (3) or more axles | 45.00 |

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-111(a)(1), is further amended by deleting the following language:

motor vehicles, excepting such motor vehicles as are constructed for the purpose of transporting tangible personal property or other property,

and substituting instead the following:

motor vehicles and trailers, excepting such motor vehicles as are constructed for the purpose of transporting tangible personal property or other property,

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-111, is further amended by deleting subsections (c) and (f) in their entireties.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-1-105, is amended by deleting subsections (b)-(e) and substituting instead the following:

(b) "Mobile home or house trailer" means any trailer that is designed for use as a dwelling place, living abode, or sleeping place, either permanently or temporarily, or whose chassis and exterior shell are designed for use as a dwelling place, living abode,

or sleeping place, but which is used instead for the advertising, sales, display, or promotion of merchandise or services, as an office, storehouse, or warehouse, or for any other commercial purpose. "Mobile home or house trailer" includes any "manufactured home" as defined in subsection (a).

(c) "Pole trailer" means every trailer that is attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach, or pole, or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregularly shaped loads such as poles, pipes, or structural members capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections.

(d) "Semitrailer" means every trailer that is so constructed that some part of its weight and that of its load rests upon or is carried by another vehicle.

(e) "Trailer" means every vehicle that is not self-propelled, that is designed for carrying persons or property and for being drawn by a motor vehicle, and that is equipped for use as a conveyance on streets and highways. "Trailer" includes pole trailers, semitrailers, mobile homes, and house trailers.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-1-103(c), is amended by deleting the last sentence in its entirety.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-101(a)(1), is amended by deleting the language "motor vehicle" wherever it appears and substituting instead the language "motor vehicle or trailer".

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-101(a)(2), is amended by deleting the language "motor vehicles" and substituting instead the language "motor vehicles and trailers".

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-101(l)(1), is amended by deleting the language ", where required under the provisions of this title,".

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-111(d), is amended by deleting the language "may register each trailer, for a period of ten (10) years, and annually pay the registration fee;" and substituting instead the language "may register each trailer for a period of

ten (10) years, in lieu of the one-year period required by § 55-4-101, and annually pay the applicable registration fee prescribed by Class (D) of subdivision (a)(1);".

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-113(a)(5), is amended by deleting subdivision (C) and substituting instead the following:

(C) On or after January 1, 2017, all trailers, including trailers, pole trailers, and semitrailers used primarily for hauling freight, shall be registered and the fee imposed shall be the applicable fee prescribed by Class (D) of § 55-4-111(a)(1). An owner of any trailer issued a permanent registration plate prior to January 1, 2017, pursuant to this subdivision (a)(5) as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, shall be entitled to retain the plate for vehicular use in accordance with this subdivision (a)(5).

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-113(a)(5)(A), is amended by deleting the language "Freight trailers, semi-trailers, and pole trailers used primarily for hauling freight" and substituting instead the language "Prior to January 1, 2017, freight trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers used primarily for hauling freight".

SECTION 12. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-209(6), is amended by deleting the language "that is permitted, but not required, to be" and "or semitrailer" wherever it appears.

SECTION 13. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-211, is amended in subdivision (b)(2) by deleting the language "or recreational vehicle or trailer or semitrailer that is not required to be registered but that the owner desires to be registered pursuant to § 55-4-111(c)(3)," and substituting instead the language ", recreational vehicle, or trailer,".

SECTION 14. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-6-104, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(e) In addition to the fee provided in subdivision (a)(1), the county clerks shall be entitled to the fee of one dollar (\$1.00) from applicants for the initial issuance of each set

of certificates of registration and registration plates for trailers registered pursuant to § 55-4-111(a)(1).

SECTION 15. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-104(c)(1)(B), is amended by inserting the following at the end of the subdivision immediately preceding the semicolon:

, except that such term excludes pole trailers and semitrailers

SECTION 16. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-4-1901(a), is amended by inserting the language ", other than pole trailers or semitrailers," immediately after the language "or trailers as defined in § 55-1-105".

SECTION 17. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.