

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 563

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES CRAWFORD AND SCHLOTTACH (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time February 27, 2003, and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

1908L.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 304.170, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to lengths of certain motor vehicles.

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Section A. Section 304.170, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 304.170, to read as follows: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 ninety-six inches, except clearance lights, rearview mirrors or other accessories required by federal, state or city law or regulation; except that, vehicles having a width, including load, not in excess of one hundred two inches, exclusive of clearance lights, rearview mirrors or other accessories required by law or regulations, may be operated on the interstate highways and such other highways as may be designated by the highways and transportation commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a distance not to exceed ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. Provided however, a recreational vehicle as defined in section 700.010, RSMo, 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

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

17 transporting automobiles or other motor vehicles may have a height, including load, of not more
18 than fourteen feet.

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

21 4. No bus, recreational motor vehicle or trackless trolley coach operated upon the
22 highways of this state shall have a length in excess of forty-five feet, except that such vehicles
23 may exceed the forty-five feet length when such excess length is caused by the projection of a
24 front safety bumper or a rear safety bumper or both. Such safety bumper shall not cause the
25 length of the bus or recreational motor vehicle to exceed the forty-five feet length limit by more
26 than one foot in the front and one foot in the rear. The term "safety bumper" means any device
27 which may be fitted on an existing bumper or which replaces the bumper and is so constructed,
28 treated, or manufactured that it absorbs energy upon impact.

29 5. No combination of truck-tractor and semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with
30 dromedary and semitrailer operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length, including
31 load, in excess of sixty feet; except that in order to comply with the provisions of Title 23 of the
32 United States Code (Public Law 97-424), no combination of truck-tractor and semitrailer or
33 truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and semitrailer operated upon the interstate highway
34 system of this state shall have an overall length, including load, in excess of the length of the
35 truck-tractor plus the semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and semitrailer, the
36 length of such semitrailer shall not exceed fifty-three feet.

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

49 7. Automobile transporters, **designed to carry motor vehicles on the tractor or power**
50 **unit, and boat transporters, both equipped with fifth-wheel hitches located on the tractor**
51 **frame over the rear axle, and truck-trailer boat transporter combinations shall have an overall**
52 **length not in excess of sixty-five feet, and in addition,** stinger-steered combination automobile

53 transporters and stinger-steered combination boat transporters [having a] **designed to carry**
54 **motor vehicles on the tractor or power unit equipped with a fifth-wheel hitch located on**
55 **a drop frame positioned below and behind the rear tractor axle shall have an overall** length
56 not in excess of seventy-five feet **and such transporters** may be operated on the interstate
57 highways of this state and such other highways as may be designated by the highways and
58 transportation commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a distance not to exceed ten
59 miles from such interstate or designated highway. All length provisions regarding **any types of**
60 automobile or boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter combinations and stinger-steered
61 combinations shall include a semitrailer length not to exceed fifty-three feet and are exclusive
62 of front and rear overhang, which shall be no greater than a three-foot front overhang **from the**
63 **front of the power unit or tractor** and no greater than a four-foot rear overhang **from the rear**
64 **of the trailer.**

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

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

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

86 11. Except as provided in subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of this section, no other
87 combination of vehicles operated upon the primary or interstate highways of this state plus a
88 distance of ten miles from a primary or interstate highway shall have an overall length, unladen

89 or with load, in excess of sixty-five feet or in excess of fifty-five feet on any other highway,
90 except the state highways and transportation commission may designate additional routes for use
91 by sixty-five foot combinations, seventy-five foot stinger-steered combinations or seventy-five
92 foot saddlemount combinations. Any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting
93 automobiles, boats or other motor vehicles may carry a load which extends no more than three
94 feet beyond the front and four feet beyond the rear of the transporting vehicle or combination of
95 vehicles.

96 12. (1) Except as hereinafter provided, these restrictions shall not apply to agricultural
97 implements operating occasionally on the highways for short distances, or to self-propelled
98 hay-hauling equipment or to implements of husbandry, or to the movement of farm products as
99 defined in section 400.9-109, RSMo, or to vehicles temporarily transporting agricultural
100 implements or implements of husbandry or roadmaking machinery, or road materials or towing
101 for repair purposes vehicles that have become disabled upon the highways; or to implement
102 dealers delivering or moving farm machinery for repairs on any state highway other than the
103 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 400.9.109, RSMo, may be operated
106 occasionally for short distances on state highways when operated between the hours of sunrise
107 and sunset by a **licensed** driver [licensed as an operator or chauffeur] **pursuant to chapter 302,**
108 **RSMo.**

109 13. As used in this chapter the term "implements of husbandry" means all self-propelled
110 machinery operated at speeds of less than thirty miles per hour, specifically designed for, or
111 especially adapted to be capable of, incidental over-the-road and primary offroad usage and used
112 exclusively for the application of commercial plant food materials or agricultural chemicals, and
113 not specifically designed or intended for transportation of such chemicals and materials. No
114 implement of husbandry may exceed a width of eleven feet, six inches.

115 14. The purpose of this section is to permit a single trip per day by the implement of
116 husbandry from the source of supply to a given farm.

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