

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 2128
100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4647H.02C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 304.170, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to trailer size restrictions.

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Section A. Section 304.170, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 304.170, to read as follows: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 one hundred two inches, except clearance lights, rearview mirrors or other accessories required by federal, state or city law or regulation. Provided however, a recreational vehicle as defined in section 700.010 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 state highways and transportation commission 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 transporting automobiles or other motor vehicles may have a height, including load, of not more than fourteen feet.

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

4. No bus, recreational motor vehicle or trackless trolley coach operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length in excess of forty-five feet, except that such vehicles may exceed the forty-five feet length when such excess length is caused by the projection of a

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

19 front safety bumper or a rear safety bumper or both. Such safety bumper shall not cause the
20 length of the bus or recreational motor vehicle to exceed the forty-five feet length limit by more
21 than one foot in the front and one foot in the rear. Notwithstanding any provision of this section
22 to the contrary, an articulated bus, comprised of two or more sections connected by a flexible
23 joint or other mechanism, may be up to sixty feet in length, not including safety bumpers which
24 may extend one foot in front and one foot in the rear, and not including bicycle storage racks
25 which may extend over the safety bumper by up to five feet when in the down position
26 transporting a bicycle. The term "safety bumper" means any device which may be fitted on an
27 existing bumper or which replaces the bumper and is so constructed, treated, or manufactured
28 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 P.L. 97-424
32 codified in Title 23 of the United States Code, 23 U.S.C. Section 101, et al., as amended, no
33 combination of truck-tractor and semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and
34 semitrailer operated upon the interstate highway system of this state shall have an overall length,
35 including load, in excess of the length of the truck-tractor plus the semitrailer or truck-tractor
36 equipped with dromedary and semitrailer. The length of such semitrailer shall not exceed
37 fifty-three feet.

38 6. In order to comply with the provisions of P.L. 97-424 codified in Title 23 of the
39 United States Code, 23 U.S.C. Section 101, et al., as amended, no combination of truck-tractor,
40 semitrailer and trailer operated upon the interstate highway system of this state shall have an
41 overall length, including load, in excess of the length of the truck-tractor plus the semitrailer and
42 trailer, neither of which semitrailer or trailer shall exceed twenty-eight feet in length, except that
43 any existing semitrailer or trailer up to twenty-eight and one-half feet in length actually and
44 lawfully operated on December 1, 1982, within a sixty-five foot overall length limit in any state,
45 may continue to be operated upon the interstate highways of this state. On those primary
46 highways not designated by the state highways and transportation commission as provided in
47 subsection 11 of this section, no combination of truck-tractor, semitrailer and trailer shall have
48 an overall length, including load, in excess of sixty-five feet; provided, however, the commission
49 may designate additional routes for such sixty-five foot combinations.

50 7. (1) Automobile transporters, boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter
51 combinations, and stinger-steered combination boat transporters having a length not in excess
52 of seventy-five feet may be operated on the interstate highways of this state and such other
53 highways as may be designated by the commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a
54 distance not to exceed ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. All length

55 provisions regarding automobile or boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter combinations
56 and stinger-steered combination boat transporters shall include a semitrailer length not to exceed
57 fifty-three feet and are exclusive of front and rear overhang, which shall be no greater than a
58 three-foot front overhang and no greater than a four-foot rear overhang.

59 (2) Stinger-steered combination automobile transporters having a length not in excess
60 of eighty feet may be operated on the interstate highways of this state and such other highways
61 as may be designated by the commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a distance not
62 to exceed ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. All length provisions regarding
63 stinger-steered automobile combination transporters are exclusive of front and rear overhang,
64 which shall be no greater than a four-foot front overhang and no greater than a six-foot rear
65 overhang.

66 (3) Automobile transporters may transport cargo or general freight on a backhaul, as long
67 as in compliance with weight limitations for a truck-tractor and semitrailer combination as
68 outlined in section 304.180.

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

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

83 10. No towaway trailer transporter combination vehicles operated upon the interstate and
84 designated primary highway system of this state shall have an overall length of more than
85 eighty-two feet.

86 11. The commission is authorized to designate routes on the state highway system other
87 than the interstate system over which those combinations of vehicles of the lengths specified in
88 subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of this section may be operated. Combinations of vehicles
89 operated under the provisions of subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of this section may be operated

90 at a distance not to exceed ten miles from the interstate system and such routes as designated
91 under the provisions of this subsection.

92 12. Except as provided in subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of this section, no other
93 combination of vehicles operated upon the primary or interstate highways of this state plus a
94 distance of ten miles from a primary or interstate highway shall have an overall length, unladen
95 or with load, in excess of sixty-five feet or in excess of fifty-five feet on any other highway.

96 13. (1) Except as hereinafter provided, these restrictions shall not apply to:

97 (a) Agricultural implements operating occasionally on the highways for short distances
98 including tractor parades for fund-raising activities or special events, provided the tractors are
99 driven by licensed drivers during daylight hours only and with the approval of the superintendent
100 of the Missouri state highway patrol; ~~or to~~

101 (b) Self-propelled hay-hauling equipment or to implements of husbandry, or to the
102 movement of farm products as defined in section 400.9-102 or to vehicles temporarily
103 transporting agricultural implements or implements of husbandry or road-making machinery, or
104 road materials or towing for repair purposes vehicles that have become disabled upon the
105 highways; ~~or to~~

106 (c) **Vehicles towing trailers specifically designed to carry harvested cotton, either**
107 **as a single trailer or in tandem, with a total length, including the trailer or trailers, of not**
108 **more than ninety-three feet; such vehicles shall only be used to haul harvested cotton,**
109 **except when hauling hay within the state to areas affected by drought as determined by the**
110 **National Drought Mitigation Center; or**

111 (d) Implement dealers delivering or moving farm machinery for repairs on any state
112 highway other than the interstate system.

113 (2) Implements of husbandry and vehicles transporting such machinery or equipment and
114 the movement of farm products as defined in section 400.9-102 may be operated occasionally
115 for short distances on state highways when operated between the hours of sunrise and sunset by
116 a driver licensed as an operator or chauffeur.

117 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, agricultural machinery
118 and implements may be operated on state highways between the hours of sunset and sunrise for
119 agricultural purposes provided such vehicles are equipped with lighting meeting the requirements
120 of section 307.115.

121 14. As used in this chapter the term "implements of husbandry" means all self-propelled
122 machinery operated at speeds of less than thirty miles per hour, specifically designed for, or
123 especially adapted to be capable of, incidental over-the-road and primary offroad usage and used
124 exclusively for the application of commercial plant food materials or agricultural chemicals, and
125 not specifically designed or intended for transportation of such chemicals and materials.

126 15. Sludge disposal units may be operated on all state highways other than the interstate
127 system. Such units shall not exceed one hundred thirty-eight inches in width and may be
128 equipped with over-width tires. Such units shall observe all axle weight limits. The commission
129 shall issue special permits for the movement of such disposal units and may by such permits
130 restrict the movements to specified routes, days and hours.

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