

LEGISLATIVE BILL 226

Approved by the Governor March 26, 1997

Introduced by Janssen, 15; Hillman, 48; Preister, 5

AN ACT relating to the Nebraska Rules of the Road; to amend section 60-6,288, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change weight restrictions for rubber-tired cranes; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 60-6,288, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

60-6,288. (1) No vehicle which exceeds a total outside width of one hundred two inches, including any load but excluding designated safety devices, shall be permitted on any portion of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways. The Director-State Engineer shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations, consistent with federal requirements, designating safety devices which shall be excluded in determining vehicle width.

(2) No vehicle which exceeds a total outside width of one hundred two inches, including any load but excluding designated safety devices, shall be permitted on any highway which is not a portion of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, except that such prohibition shall not apply to:

(a) Farm equipment in temporary movement, during daylight hours or during hours of darkness when the clearance light requirements of section 60-6,235 are fully complied with, in the normal course of farm operations;

(b) Combines eighteen feet or less in width, while in the normal course of farm operations and while being driven during daylight hours or during hours of darkness when the clearance light requirements of such section 60-6,235 are fully complied with;

(c) Combines in excess of eighteen feet in width, while in the normal course of farm operations, while being driven during daylight hours for distances of twenty-five miles or less on highways and while preceded by a well-lighted pilot vehicle or flagperson, except that such combines may be driven on highways while in the normal course of farm operations for distances of twenty-five miles or less and while preceded by a well-lighted pilot vehicle or flagperson during hours of darkness when the clearance light requirements of such section 60-6,235 are fully complied with;

(d) Combines and vehicles used in transporting combines, and only when transporting combines, to be engaged in harvesting, while being transported into or through the state during daylight hours, when the total width including the width of the combine being transported does not exceed fifteen feet, except that vehicles used in transporting combines may, when necessary to the harvesting operation, travel unloaded for distances not to exceed twenty-five miles, while the combine to be transported is engaged in a harvesting operation;

(e) Farm equipment dealers hauling, driving, delivering, or picking up farm equipment, including portable livestock buildings not exceeding fourteen feet in width, or implements of husbandry during daylight hours;

(f) Alfalfa harvesting machinery in temporary movement during daylight hours and hours of darkness when (i) the clearance light requirements of section 60-6,235 are fully complied with, (ii) there is, on the front vehicle and above the line of the regular lights of such vehicle, a flashing, amber-colored light at least four inches in diameter and clearly visible to traffic approaching from any direction, and (iii) there is a well-lighted pilot vehicle or flagperson at least three hundred feet in advance of such vehicles to give warning of the approach of overwidth equipment, and such prohibition shall not apply to equipment of thirteen feet or less in width to be used in highway or other public construction or in agricultural land treatment in temporary movement during daylight hours on roads other than dustless-surfaced state highways and for necessary access to points on such highways;

(g) Livestock forage vehicles loaded or unloaded that comply with subsection (2) of section 60-6,305;

(h) During daylight hours only, vehicles en route to pick up, delivering, or returning unloaded from delivery of baled livestock forage which, including the load if any, may be twelve feet in width;

(i) Mobile homes or prefabricated livestock buildings not exceeding

sixteen feet in width and with an outside tire width dimension not exceeding one hundred twenty inches moving during daylight hours;

(j) A rubber-tired crane with a fixed load when:

(i) The crane will be transported on a state highway, excluding any portion of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, on a city street, or on a road within the corporate limits of a city;

(ii) The city in which the crane is intended to be transported has authorized a one-day permit for the transportation of the crane, specifying the route to be used and the hours during which the crane can be transported, except that no permit shall be issued by a city for travel on a state highway containing a bridge or structure which is structurally inadequate to carry the crane as determined by the Department of Roads;

(iii) The crane will be escorted by another vehicle or vehicles assigned by the city;

(iv) The crane's gross weight does not exceed ~~eighty-five~~ ninety-four thousand pounds, if a four-axle crane, or ~~sixty-seven~~ seventy-two thousand pounds, if a three-axle crane; and

(v) If a four-axle crane, the maximum weight on each set of tandem axles does not exceed ~~forty-two~~ forty-seven thousand ~~five hundred~~ pounds, or if a three-axle crane, the maximum weight on the front axle does not exceed twenty-five thousand pounds and the total maximum weight on the rear tandem axles does not exceed ~~forty-two~~ forty-seven thousand ~~five hundred~~ pounds; or

(k) Vehicles which have been issued a permit pursuant to section 60-6,299.

(3) The Director-State Engineer, with respect to highways under his or her jurisdiction, may designate certain highways upon which vehicles of no more than ninety-six inches in width may be permitted to travel. Highways so designated shall be limited to one or more of the following:

(a) Highways with traffic lanes of ten feet or less;

(b) Highways upon which are located narrow bridges; and

(c) Highways which because of sight distance, surfacing, unusual curves, topographic conditions, or other unusual circumstances would not in the opinion of the Director-State Engineer safely accommodate vehicles of more than ninety-six inches in width.

Sec. 2. Original section 60-6,288, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is repealed.

Sec. 3. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.