

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 47th Legislature (2000)

HOUSE BILL HB2480

By: Ferguson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to motor vehicles; amending 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1102, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 199, O.S.L. 1998 (47 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1102), which relates to definitions; modifying definition; amending 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1133.1, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 19, O.S.L. 1994 (47 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1133.1), which relates to registration as commercial vehicles; requiring name of business to be displayed in certain manner on certain vehicles; defining term; deleting certain display requirements; increasing fee for inspection of commercial vehicles; modifying penalty; amending 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1151, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 33, O.S.L. 1999 (47 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1151), which relates to offenses and penalties; modifying penalties for certain violations; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1102, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 199, O.S.L. 1998 (47 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1102), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1102. As used in this act:

1. "Carrying capacity" means the carrying capacity of a vehicle as determined or declared in tons of cargo or payload by the owner, provided, that such declared capacity shall not be less than the minimum tonnage capacity fixed, listed or advertised by the manufacturer of any vehicle;

2. "Certificate of title" means a document which is proof of legal ownership of a motor vehicle as described and provided for in Section 1105 of this title;

3. "Chips and oil" or the term "road oil and crushed rock" means, with respect to materials authorized for use in the surfacing

of roads or highways in this title or in any equivalent statute pertaining to road or highway surfacing in the State of Oklahoma, any asphaltic materials. Wherever chips and oil or road oil and crushed rock are authorized for use in the surfacing of roads or highways in this state, whether by the Department of Transportation, or by the county commissioners, or other road building authority subject to this act, asphaltic materials are also authorized for use in such surfacing and construction;

4. "Combined laden weight" means the weight of a truck or station wagon and its cargo or payload transported thereon, or the weight of a truck or truck-tractor plus the weight of any trailers or semitrailers together with the cargo or payload transported thereon;

5. "Commercial trailer" means any trailer, as defined in Section 1-180 of this title, or semitrailer, as defined in Section 1-162 of this title, when such trailer or semitrailer is used primarily for business or commercial purposes;

6. "Commercial trailer dealer" means any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of selling any new and unused, or used, or both new and used commercial trailers;

7. "Commercial vehicle" means any vehicle over eight thousand (8,000) pounds combined laden weight used primarily for business or commercial purposes. ~~Each motor vehicle being registered pursuant to the provisions of this section shall have the name of the commercial establishment or the words "Commercial Vehicle" permanently and prominently displayed upon the outside of the vehicle in letters not less than two (2) inches high and two (2) inches wide. Such letters shall be in sharp contrast to the background and shall be of sufficient shape and color as to be readily legible during daylight hours, from a distance of fifty (50) feet while the vehicle is not in motion. The Commission or its motor license agents shall make physical inspections of commercial~~

~~vehicles as provided for in Section 1133.1 of this title, if by law said vehicles are required to be inspected to verify that said lettering is permanently displayed as required by this paragraph. A fee of fifty cents (\$0.50) shall be charged for making such inspection. Any commercial vehicle with a combined laden weight of over twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 1133 of this title shall not be subject to physical inspection by the Commission or its motor license agents. Any commercial vehicle with a combined laden weight of twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds or less registered pursuant to Section 1133 or 1133.1 of this title shall be subject to physical inspection by the Commission or its motor license agent only at the time the vehicle is first registered in this state and upon the transfer of ownership of such vehicle;~~

8. "Commission" means the Oklahoma Tax Commission;

9. "Dealer" means any person, firm, association, corporation or trust who sells, solicits or advertises the sale of new and unused motor vehicles and holds a bona fide contract or franchise in effect with a manufacturer or distributor of a particular make of new or unused motor vehicle or vehicles for the sale of same;

10. "Interstate commerce" means any commerce moving between any place in a state and any place in another state or between places in the same state through another state;

11. "Laden weight" means the combined weight of a vehicle when fully equipped for use and the cargo or payload transported thereon; provided that in no event shall the laden weight be less than the unladen weight of the vehicle fully equipped for use, plus the manufacturer's rated carrying capacity;

12. "Local authorities" means every county, municipality or local board or body having authority to adopt police regulations under the Constitution and laws of this state;

13. "Manufactured home" means a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which, in the traveling mode, is eight (8) body feet or more in width or forty (40) body feet or more in length, or, when erected on site, is three hundred twenty (320) or more square feet, and which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and electrical systems contained thereon. The term manufactured home shall not include any manufactured home which is owned by a religious corporation or society and is used exclusively for religious purposes. "Mobile home" means a manufactured home transportable in one section. "Sectional home" means a manufactured home transportable in two or more sections. Said terms shall not include any travel trailer or any self-propelled vehicles used as living quarters, whether referred to as motor homes or by any other name. Provided, that trailers or semitrailers used for the transportation of goods or property, other than the personal belongings of the owner of such vehicle, shall not be included in this definition;

14. "Manufactured home dealer" means any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of selling any new and unused, or used, or both new and used manufactured homes. Such information and a valid franchise letter as proof of authorization to sell any such new manufactured home product line or lines shall be attached to said application for a dealer license to sell manufactured homes. "Manufactured home dealer" shall not include any person, firm or corporation who sells or contracts for the sale of his own personally titled manufactured home or homes. No person, firm or corporation shall be considered a manufactured home dealer as to any manufactured home purchased or acquired by such person, firm or corporation for purposes other than resale; provided, that the restriction set forth in this sentence shall not prevent an

otherwise qualified person, firm or corporation from utilizing a single manufactured home as a sales office;

15. "Motor license agent" means any person appointed, designated or authorized by the Oklahoma Tax Commission to collect the fees and to enforce the provisions provided for in this act;

16. "New vehicle" or "unused vehicle" means a vehicle which has been in the possession of the manufacturer, distributor or wholesaler or has been sold only by the manufacturer, distributor or wholesaler to a dealer;

17. "Nonresident" means any person who is not a resident of this state;

18. "Owner" means any person owning, operating or possessing any vehicle herein defined;

19. "Person" means any individual, copartner, joint venture, association, corporation, limited liability company, estate, trust, business trust, syndicate, the State of Oklahoma, or any county, city, municipality, school district or other political subdivision thereof, or any group or combination acting as a unit, or any receiver appointed by the state or federal court;

20. "Recreational vehicle" means every vehicle which is built on or permanently attached to a self-propelled motor chassis or chassis cab which becomes an integral part of the completed vehicle and is capable of being operated on the highways. In order to qualify as a recreational vehicle pursuant to this paragraph such vehicle shall be permanently constructed and equipped for human habitation, having its own sleeping and kitchen facilities, including permanently affixed cooking facilities, water tanks and holding tank with permanent toilet facilities. Recreational vehicle shall not include manufactured homes or any vehicle with portable sleeping, toilet and kitchen facilities which are designed to be removed from such vehicle;

21. "Rental trailer" means all small or utility trailers or semitrailers constructed and suitable for towing by a passenger automobile and designed only for carrying property, when said trailers or semitrailers are owned by, or are in the possession of, any person engaged in renting or leasing such trailers or semitrailers for intrastate or interstate use or combined intrastate and interstate use;

22. "Special mobilized machinery" means special purpose machines, either self-propelled or drawn as trailers or semitrailers, which derive no revenue from the transportation of persons or property, whose use of the highway is only incidental, and whose useful revenue producing service is performed at destinations in an area away from the traveled surface of an established open highway;

23. "State" means the State of Oklahoma;

24. "Station wagon" means any passenger vehicle which does not have a separate luggage compartment or trunk and which does not have open beds, and has one or more rear seats readily lifted out or folded, whether same is called a station wagon or ranch wagon;

25. "Travel trailer" means any vehicular portable structure built on a chassis, used as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreational or vacation use, and, when factory-equipped for the road, it shall have a body width not exceeding eight (8) feet and an overall length not exceeding forty (40) feet, including the hitch or coupling;

26. "Travel trailer dealer" means any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of selling any new and unused, or used, or both new and used travel trailers. Such information and a valid franchise letter as proof of authorization to sell any such new travel trailer product line or lines shall be attached to said application for a dealer license to sell travel trailers. "Travel trailer dealer" shall not include any person, firm or corporation

who sells or contracts for the sale of his own personally titled travel trailer or trailers. No person, firm or corporation shall be considered as a travel trailer dealer as to any travel trailer purchased or acquired by such person, firm or corporation for purposes other than resale;

27. "Used motor vehicle dealer" means "used motor vehicle dealer" as defined in Section 581 of this title;

28. "Used vehicle" means any vehicle which has been sold, bargained, exchanged or given away, or used to the extent that it has become what is commonly known, and generally recognized, as a "secondhand" vehicle. This shall also include any vehicle, regardless of age, owned by any person who is not a dealer; and

29. "Vehicle" means any type of conveyance or device in, upon or by which a person or property is or may be transported from one location to another upon the avenues of public access within the state. "Vehicle" does not include bicycles, trailers except travel trailers and rental trailers, or implements of husbandry as defined in Section 1-125 of this title. All implements of husbandry used as conveyances shall be required to display the owner's driver's license number or license plate number of any vehicle owned by the owner of the implement of husbandry on the rear of the implement in numbers not less than two (2) inches in height. The use of the owner's social security number on the rear of the implement of husbandry shall not be required.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1133.1, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 19, O.S.L. 1994 (47 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1133.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1133.1 A. Any vehicle, including a station wagon as defined in ~~paragraph 22 of~~ Section 1102 of this title, which has a combined laden weight of eight thousand (8,000) pounds or less and is used primarily for business or commercial purposes may be registered, pursuant to Section 1133 of this title, as a commercial

vehicle having a combined laden weight over eight thousand (8,000) pounds and less than fifteen thousand and one (15,001) pounds. ~~Said~~ The registration application shall state that such vehicle or station wagon is used for business or commercial purposes. Such vehicles or station wagons registered pursuant to this section shall be assessed the license fees for such commercial vehicle pursuant to Section 1133 of this title.

B. Any person claiming the right to register a vehicle or station wagon pursuant to subsection A of this section shall sign an affidavit attesting to the fact that such person conducts a business or commercial enterprise or is employed by a person conducting a business or commercial enterprise that uses ~~said~~ the vehicle or station wagon primarily for the use of that business or commercial enterprise. Any person who signs ~~said~~ the affidavit as required by this subsection when such person does not believe the information in ~~said~~ the affidavit is true or knows that it is not true, upon conviction, shall be guilty of perjury and shall be punished as provided for by law.

C. Upon initial registration by a person of a vehicle or station wagon pursuant to the provisions of this section, and upon transfer of ownership of any such vehicle or station wagon, any person claiming the right to register a vehicle or station wagon pursuant to subsection A of this section shall make further proof that the person does in fact conduct a business or commercial enterprise or is employed by a person conducting a business or commercial enterprise that uses ~~said~~ the vehicle or station wagon primarily for the use of that business or commercial enterprise by presenting a permit to do business pursuant to Section 1364 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes or a Federal Employers Identification Number or, if a sole proprietor, a copy of Schedule C from their most recent federal income tax return. Any person claiming the right to re-register a vehicle or station wagon identified by the

words "Commercial Vehicle" pursuant to subsection D of this section shall offer the same proof required by this subsection for initial registration or transfer of ownership. Such proof shall not be necessary if the name of the business or commercial enterprise is permanently and prominently displayed upon the outside of ~~said~~ the vehicle or station wagon.

D. Any vehicle or station wagon registered pursuant to the provisions of this section which is twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds or less shall have the name of the business or commercial enterprise prominently displayed upon both sides of the vehicle identifying the business or commercial enterprise. Such identification shall be in sharp contrast to the background and shall be of sufficient size, shape, and color as to be readily legible during daylight hours from a distance of fifty (50) feet while the vehicle or station wagon is not in motion. For purposes of this section, "prominently displayed" means painted on or bolted to the vehicle, the use of stick-on decals, or magnetic signs. Upon ~~initial~~ each registration by a person of a vehicle or station wagon pursuant to the provisions of this section, and upon transfer of ownership of any such vehicle or station wagon the Commission or its motor license agents shall physically inspect such vehicles or station wagons to verify that the name of the business or commercial enterprise is ~~permanently and prominently displayed upon the outside both sides of said the~~ vehicle or station wagon ~~or said vehicle or station wagon is identified by the words "Commercial Vehicle" permanently and prominently displayed upon the outside of the vehicle or station wagon in letters not less than two (2) inches high and two (2) inches wide. Such letters shall be in sharp contrast to the background and shall be of sufficient shape and color as to be readily legible during daylight hours from a distance of fifty (50) feet while the vehicle or station wagon is not in motion.~~ The Commission or its motor license agent shall receive the

~~a fee provided for in paragraph 5 of Section 1102 of this title of~~
Five Dollars (\$5.00) for making such inspection.

E. The failure of any owner of a vehicle or station wagon to properly label the vehicle or station wagon or to properly utilize the vehicle or station wagon for the purposes required by this section or the failure to properly display the name of the business or commercial enterprise shall result in the issuance of a new license plate at the rate specified in Section 1132 of this title and in addition a penalty of fifty percent (50%) of the cost of such license shall be assessed against the owner. The owner of such vehicle shall also be subject to the penalties set forth in Section 1151 of this title.

F. In addition to the requirements of Section 1133 of this title, any commercial vehicle having a combined laden weight over eight thousand (8,000) pounds and less than fifteen thousand and one (15,001) pounds shall be subject to the requirements of this section.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 1991, Section 1151, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 33, O.S.L. 1999 (47 O.S. Supp. 1999, Section 1151), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1151. A. It shall be unlawful for any person to commit any of the following acts:

1. To lend or to sell to, or knowingly permit the use of by, one not entitled thereto any certificate of title, license plate or decal issued to or in the custody of the person so lending or permitting the use thereof;

2. To alter or in any manner change a certificate of title, registration certificate, license plate or decal issued under the laws of this or any other state;

3. To procure from another state or country, or display upon any vehicle owned by such person within this state, except as otherwise provided in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration

Act, any license plate issued by any state or country other than this state, unless there shall be displayed upon such vehicle at all times the current license plate and decal assigned to it by the Oklahoma Tax Commission or the vehicle shall display evidence that the vehicle is registered as a nonresident vehicle pursuant to rules promulgated by the Tax Commission, with the concurrence of the Department of Public Safety. A violation of the provisions of this paragraph shall be presumed to have occurred if a person who is the holder of an Oklahoma driver license operates a vehicle owned by such person on the public roads or highways of this state and there is not displayed on the vehicle a current Oklahoma license plate and decal, unless the vehicle is owned by a member of the Armed Forces of the United States assigned to duty in this state in compliance with official military or naval orders or the spouse of such a member of the Armed Forces;

4. To drive, operate or move, or for the owner to cause or permit to be driven or moved, upon the roads, streets or highways of this state, any vehicle loaded in excess of its registered laden weight, or which is licensed for a capacity less than the manufacturer's rated capacity as provided for in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act;

5. To operate a vehicle without proper license plate or decal or on which all taxes due the state have not been paid;

6. To buy, sell or dispose of, or possess for sale, use or storage, any secondhand or used vehicle on which the registration or license fee has not been paid, as required by law, and on which vehicle the person neglects, fails or refuses to display at all times the license plate or decal assigned to it;

7. To give a fictitious name or fictitious address or make any misstatement of facts in application for certificate of title and registration of a vehicle;

8. To purchase a license plate on an assigned certificate of title. This particular paragraph shall be applicable to all persons except bona fide registered dealers in used cars who are holders of current and valid used car dealers' licenses;

9. To operate a vehicle upon the highways of this state after the registration deadline for that vehicle without a proper license plate, as prescribed by the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act, for the current year;

10. For any owner of a vehicle registered on the basis of laden weight to fail or refuse to weigh or reweigh it when requested to do so by any enforcement officer charged with the duty of enforcing this law;

11. To operate or possess any vehicle which bears a motor number or serial number other than the original number placed thereon by the factory except a number duly assigned and authorized by the state;

12. For any motor license agent to release a license plate, a manufactured home registration receipt, decal or excise tax receipt to any unauthorized person or source, including any dealer in new or used motor vehicles. Violation of this paragraph shall constitute sufficient grounds for discharge of a motor license agent by the Tax Commission;

13. To operate any vehicle registered as a commercial vehicle without ~~the lettering requirements~~ properly displaying the name of the business or commercial enterprise in accordance with the provisions of Section ~~1102~~ 1133.1 of this title; or

14. To operate any vehicle in violation of the provisions of Sections 7-600 through 7-606 of this title while displaying a yearly decal issued to the owner who has filed an affidavit with the appropriate motor license agent in accordance with Section 7-607 of this title.

Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this subsection shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). Employees of the Motor Vehicle Division of the Tax Commission may be authorized by the Tax Commission to issue citations for a violation of paragraph 5 of this subsection. If a person convicted of violating the provisions of paragraph 5 of this subsection was issued a citation by a duly authorized employee of the Motor Vehicle Division of the Tax Commission, the fine herein levied shall be deposited to the Oklahoma Tax Commission Revolving Fund.

B. Except as otherwise authorized by law, it shall be unlawful to:

1. Lend or sell to, or knowingly permit the use of by, one not entitled thereto any certificate of title issued for a manufactured home, manufactured home registration receipt, manufactured home registration decal or excise tax receipt;

2. Alter or in any manner change a certificate of title issued for a manufactured home under the laws of this state or any other state;

3. Remove or alter a manufactured home registration receipt, manufactured home registration decal or excise tax receipt attached to a certificate of title or attach such receipts to a certificate of title with the intent to misrepresent the payment of the required excise tax and registration fees;

4. Buy, sell, or dispose of, or possess for sale, use or storage any used manufactured home on which the registration fees or excise taxes have not been paid as required by law; or

5. Purchase identification, manufactured home registration receipt, manufactured home registration decal or excise tax receipt on an assigned certificate of title.

Anyone violating the provisions of this subsection, upon conviction, shall be guilty of a felony.

C. In the event a new vehicle is not registered within thirty (30) days from date of purchase, the penalty for the failure of the owner of the vehicle to register the vehicle within thirty (30) days shall be Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), provided that in no event shall the penalty exceed an amount equal to the license fee. The penalty for new commercial vehicles shall be equal to the license fee for such vehicles.

If a used vehicle is brought into Oklahoma by a resident of this state and is not registered within thirty (30) days, a penalty of twenty-five cents (\$0.25) per day shall be charged from the date of entry to the date of registration, such penalty to accrue for thirty (30) days, upon failure to register, at the end of which time the penalty shall be Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00), provided that in no event shall the penalty exceed an amount equal to the license fee. The penalty for used commercial vehicles shall be equal to the license fee for such vehicles.

D. Any owner who knowingly makes or causes to be made any false statement of a fact required in this section to be shown in an application for the registration of one or more vehicles shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or shall be imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

E. Self-propelled or motor-driven cycles, known and commonly referred to as "minibikes" and other similar trade names, shall not be registered under the provisions of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act or be permitted to be operated on the streets or highways of this state. Provided that minibikes may be operated on the streets when used in a parade. Notwithstanding other provisions of this subsection, minibikes may be registered and

operated in this state by food vendor services upon streets having a speed limit of thirty (30) miles per hour or less.

All minibikes offered for sale in this state shall bear the following notice to the customer:

"This machine is not manufactured or sold for operation on the public streets or highways. Since it is not provided with equipment required by law for street or highway use, all persons are cautioned that any operation of this vehicle upon a public street or highway will be in violation of the motor vehicle laws of this state and will subject the violator to arrest."

Transfers and sales of such vehicles shall be subject to sales tax and not motor vehicle excise taxes.

The provisions of this subsection shall also apply to those motor-driven or operated vehicles known as "golf carts", "go-carts" and other motor vehicles which are manufactured principally for use off the streets and highways. Provided that golf carts owned by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, and operated by employees or agents of the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department, may be operated on the streets and highways of this state during daylight hours or under regulation developed by the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Commission, when such streets and highways are located within the boundaries of a state park. The Department shall have warning signs placed at the entrance and other locations at those state parks allowing golf carts to be operated on the streets and highways of this state located within the boundaries of those state parks. The warning signs shall state that golf carts may be on such streets and highways and that motor vehicle operators shall take special precautions to be alert for the presence of the golf carts on such streets and highways.

The provisions of this subsection shall also apply to those motor-driven or operated vehicles known as "all-terrain vehicles",

which are manufactured principally for use off the roads. Provided, that all-terrain vehicles may be operated on unpaved roads which are located within the boundaries of any property of the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

F. Any person violating paragraph 3 or 6 of subsection A of this section, in addition to the penal provisions provided in this section, shall pay as additional penalty a sum equal to the amount of license fees due on such vehicle or registration fees due on a manufactured home known to be in violation and such amount is hereby declared to be a lien upon the vehicle as provided in the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act. In addition to the penalty provisions provided in this section, any person violating ~~paragraph~~ paragraphs 3 and 13 of subsection A of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of ~~One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)~~ Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) and the suspension of such person's driver license and right to operate the vehicle.

G. Each violation of any provision of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act for each and every day such violation has occurred shall constitute a separate offense.

H. Anyone violating any of the provisions heretofore enumerated in this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be fined not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

I. Any violation of any portion of the Oklahoma Vehicle License and Registration Act where a specific penalty has not been imposed shall constitute a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof the person having violated it shall be fined not less than Ten Dollars (\$10.00) and not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

J. Any provision of Section 1101 et seq. of this title providing for proportional registration under reciprocal agreements and the International Registration Plan that relates to the

promulgation of rules and regulations shall not be subject to the provisions of this section.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2000.

47-2-8245 JAF 6/12/15