

of duty requiring the services of the member.

b. When the authorized vehicle is transporting a person requiring emergency care.

c. When the authorized vehicle is at the scene of an emergency.

d. The use of the blue or white light in or on a private motor vehicle shall be for identification purposes only.

6. Amber flashing light. A farm tractor, farm tractor with towed equipment, self-propelled implement of husbandry, road construction or maintenance vehicle, road grader, or other vehicle principally designed for use off the highway which, when operated on a primary or secondary road, is operated at a speed of twenty-five miles an hour or less, shall be equipped with and display an amber flashing light visible from the rear at any time from sunset to sunrise. If the amber flashing light is obstructed by the towed equipment, the towed equipment shall also be equipped with and display an amber flashing light as required under this subsection. All vehicles specified in this subsection which are manufactured for sale or sold in this state shall be equipped with an amber flashing light in accordance with the standards of the American society of agricultural engineers.

7. Flashing white light. Except as provided in section 321.373, subsection 7, and subsection 2, paragraph "c" of this section, a flashing white light shall only be used on a vehicle in the following circumstances:

a. On a vehicle owned or exclusively operated by an ambulance, rescue, or first response service.

b. On a vehicle authorized by the director of public health when all of the following apply:

(1) The vehicle is owned by a member of an ambulance, rescue, or first response service.

(2) The request for authorization is made by the member on forms provided by the Iowa department of public health.

(3) Necessity for authorization is demonstrated in the request.

(4) The head of an ambulance, rescue, or first response service certifies that the member is in good standing and recommends that the authorization be granted.

c. On an authorized emergency vehicle.

The Iowa department of public health shall adopt rules to establish issuance standards, including allowing local emergency medical service providers to issue certificates of authorization, and shall adopt rules to establish certificate of authorization revocation procedures.

25.321.424 to 25.321.429 reserved.

BRAKES, HITCHES, AND SWAY CONTROL

25.321.430 Brake, hitch and control requirements.

1. Every motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, or motorized bicycle, when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle, including two separate means of applying the brakes, each of which means shall be effective to apply the brakes to at least two wheels. If these two separate means of applying the brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part of the operating mechanism shall not leave the motor vehicle without brakes on at least two wheels.

2. Every motorcycle and motorized bicycle, when operated upon a highway, shall be equipped with at least one brake, which may be operated by hand or foot.

3. Every trailer or semitrailer of a gross weight of three thousand pounds or more, and every trailer coach or travel trailer of a gross weight of three thousand pounds or more intended for use for human habitation, when operated on the highways of this state, shall be equipped with brakes adequate to

control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle, and so designed as to be applied by the driver of the towing motor vehicle from its cab, or with self-actuating brakes, and weight equalizing hitch with a sway control. Every semitrailer, travel trailer, or trailer coach of a gross weight of three thousand pounds or more shall be equipped with a separate, auxiliary means of applying the brakes on the semitrailer, travel trailer, or trailer coach from the cab of the towing vehicle. Trailers or semitrailers with a truck or truck tractor need only comply with the brake requirements.

4. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, every new motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer hereafter sold in this state and operated upon the highways shall be equipped with service brakes upon all wheels of every such vehicle with the following exceptions:

a. Any motorcycle or motorized bicycle.

b. Any trailer or semitrailer of less than three thousand pounds gross weight need not be equipped with brakes.

c. Trucks and truck tractors equipped with three or more axles and manufactured before July 25, 1980, need not have brakes on the front wheels, except that such vehicles equipped with two or more front axles shall be equipped with brakes on at least one of the axles; however, the service brakes of the vehicle shall comply with the performance requirements of section 321.431.

d. Only such brakes on the vehicle or vehicles being towed in a driveaway-towaway operation need be operative as may be necessary to insure compliance by the combination of vehicles with the performance requirements of section 321.431. The term "driveaway-towaway" operation as used in this subsection means any operation in which any motor vehicle or motor vehicles, new or used, constitute the commodity being transported, when one set or more of wheels of any such motor vehicle or motor vehicles are on the roadway during the course of transportation, whether or not any such motor vehicle furnishes the motive power.

25.321.431 reserved.

MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT

25.321.432 Horns and warning devices.

Every motor vehicle when operated upon a highway shall be equipped with a horn in good working order and capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than two hundred feet, but no horn or other warning device shall emit an unreasonably loud or harsh sound or a whistle. The driver of a motor vehicle shall when reasonably necessary to insure safe operation give audible warning with the horn but shall not otherwise use such horn when upon a highway.

25.321.433 Sirens, whistles, and bells prohibited.

A vehicle shall not be equipped with and a person shall not use upon a vehicle any siren, whistle, or bell, except as otherwise permitted in this section. It is permissible but not required that any commercial vehicle be equipped with a theft alarm signal device which is so arranged that it cannot be used by the driver as an ordinary warning signal. Any authorized emergency vehicle may be equipped with a siren, whistle, or bell capable of emitting sound audible under normal conditions from a distance of not less than five hundred feet, but the siren, whistle, or bell shall not be used except when the vehicle is operated in response to an emergency call or in the immediate pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, and the driver of the vehicle shall sound the siren, whistle, or bell when necessary to warn pedestrians and other drivers of the approach of the vehicle.

25.321.434 Bicycle sirens or whistles.

A bicycle shall not be equipped with and a person shall not use upon a bicycle any siren or whistle. This section shall not apply to bicycles ridden by peace officers in the line of duty.

25.321.435 reserved.

258.321.436 Mufflers, prevention of noise.

Every motor vehicle shall at all times be equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual noise and annoying smoke, and no person shall use a muffler cutout, by-pass or similar device upon a motor vehicle on a highway.

25.321.437 Mirrors.

Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a mirror so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for a distance of at least two hundred feet to the rear of such vehicle. Any motor vehicle so loaded, or towing another vehicle in such manner, as to obstruct the view in a rear view mirror located in the driver's compartment shall be equipped with a side mirror so located that the view to the rear will not be obstructed however when such vehicle is not loaded or towing another vehicle the side mirrors shall be retracted or removed. All van or van type motor vehicles shall be equipped with outside mirrors of unit magnification, each with not less than nineteen point five square inches of reflective surface, installed with stable supports on both sides of the vehicle, located so as to provide the driver a view to the rear along both sides of the vehicle, and adjustable in both the horizontal and vertical directions to view the rearward scene.

Notwithstanding this chapter or chapter 321E, a combination of vehicles coupled together which is used exclusively for the transportation of passenger vehicles, light delivery trucks, panel delivery trucks, pickups, boats, and recreational chassis, may permanently attach a convex-type mirror on either or both of the vertical supports, forward of the steering axle of the power unit, provided that the mirror shall not extend beyond the limit of any other rearview mirror on the vehicle.

25.321.438 Windshields and windows.

1. A person shall not drive a motor vehicle equipped with a windshield, sidewings, or side or rear windows which do not permit clear vision.
2. A person shall not operate on the highway a motor vehicle equipped with a front windshield, a side window to the immediate right or left of the driver, or a side-wing forward of and to the left or right of the driver which is excessively dark or reflective so that it is difficult for a person outside the motor vehicle to see into the motor vehicle through the windshield, window, or sidewing. The department shall adopt rules establishing a minimum measurable standard of transparency which shall apply to violations of this subsection.
3. Every motor vehicle except a motorcycle, or a vehicle included in the provisions of section 321.383 or section 321.115 shall be equipped with a windshield in accordance with section 321.444.

25.321.439 Windshield wipers.

The windshield on every motor vehicle shall be equipped with a device for cleaning rain, snow, or other moisture from the windshield, which device shall be so constructed as to be controlled or operated by the driver of the vehicle.

25.321.440 Restrictions as to tire equipment.

Every solid rubber tire on a vehicle shall have rubber on its entire traction surface at least one inch thick above the edge of the flange of the entire periphery. Any pneumatic tire on a vehicle shall be considered unsafe if it has:

1. Any part of the ply or cord exposed;
2. Any bump, bulge or separation;
3. A tread design depth of less than one-sixteenth of an inch measured in any two or more adjacent tread grooves, exclusive of tie bars or, for those tires with tread wear indicators, worn to the level of the tread wear indicators in any two tread grooves;
4. A marking "not for highway use", "for racing purposes only", "unsafe for highway use";
5. Tread or sidewall cracks, cuts or snags deep enough to expose the body cord;
6. Such other conditions as may be reasonably demonstrated to render it unsafe;
7. Been regrooved or recut below the original tread design depth, excepting special tires which have extra under tread rubber and are identified as such, or if a pneumatic tire was originally designed without grooves or tread.

25.321.441 Metal tires prohibited.

No person shall operate or move on a paved highway any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer having any metal tire or metal track in contact with the roadway.

25.321.442 Projections on wheels.

No tire on a vehicle moved on a highway shall have on its periphery any block, stud, flange, cleat, or spike or any other protuberances of any material other than rubber which projects beyond the tread of the traction surface of the tire except that it shall be permissible to use:

1. Farm machinery with tires having protuberances which will not injure the highway.
2. Tire chains of reasonable proportions upon any vehicle when required for safety because of snow, ice, or other conditions tending to cause a vehicle to skid.
3. Pneumatic tires with inserted ice grips or tire studs projecting not more than one-sixteenth inch beyond the tread of the traction surface of the tire upon any vehicle from November 1 of each year to April 1 of the following year, except that a school bus and fire department emergency apparatus may use such tires at any time.

25.321.443 reserved.

25.321.444 Safety glass.

1. No person shall sell any new motor vehicle nor shall any motor vehicle, manufactured since July 1, 1935, be registered, or operated unless such vehicle is equipped with safety glass wherever glass is used in doors, windows, and windshields. Replacements of glass in doors, windows, or windshields shall be of safety glass.
2. "Safety glass" means any product composed of glass, so manufactured, fabricated, or treated as substantially to prevent shattering and flying of the glass when struck or broken. Safety glass and glazing materials shall comply with federal motor vehicle safety standard number 205 as published in 49 C.F.R. § 571.205.

25.321.445 Safety belts and safety harnesses—use required.

1. Except for motorcycles or motorized bicycles, 1966 model year or newer motor vehicles subject to registration in Iowa shall be equipped with safety belts and safety harnesses which conform with

federal motor vehicle safety standard numbers 209 and 210 as published in 49 C.F.R. § 571.209–571.210 and with prior federal motor vehicle safety standards for seat belt assemblies and seat belt assembly anchorages applicable for the motor vehicle's model year.

2. The driver and front seat occupants of a type of motor vehicle which is subject to registration in Iowa, except a motorcycle or a motorized bicycle, shall each wear a properly adjusted and fastened safety belt or safety harness any time the vehicle is in forward motion on a street or highway in this state except that a child under six years of age shall be secured as required under section 321.446. This subsection does not apply to:

a. The driver or front seat occupants of a motor vehicle which is not required to be equipped with safety belts or safety harnesses.

b. The driver and front seat occupants of a motor vehicle who are actively engaged in work which requires them to alight from and reenter the vehicle at frequent intervals, providing the vehicle does not exceed twenty-five miles per hour between stops.

c. The driver of a motor vehicle while performing duties as a rural letter carrier for the United States postal service. This exemption applies only between the first delivery point after leaving the post office and the last delivery point before returning to the post office.

d. Passengers on a bus.

e. A person possessing a written certification from a health care provider licensed under chapter 148, 150, 150A, or 151 on a form provided by the department that the person is unable to wear a safety belt or safety harness due to physical or medical reasons. The certification shall specify the time period for which the exemption applies. The time period shall not exceed twelve months, at which time a new certification may be issued unless the certifying health care provider is from a United States military facility, in which case the certificate may specify a longer period of time or a permanent exemption.

f. Front seat occupants of an authorized emergency vehicle while they are being transported in an emergency. However, this exemption does not apply to the driver of the authorized emergency vehicle.

During the six-month period from July 1, 1986 through December 31, 1986, peace officers shall issue only warning citations for violations of this subsection, except this does not apply to drivers subject to the federal motor carrier safety regulation 49 C.F.R. § 392.16.

The department, in cooperation with the department of public safety and the department of education, shall establish educational programs to foster compliance with the safety belt and safety harness usage requirements of this subsection.

3. The driver and front seat passengers may be each charged separately for improperly used or nonused equipment under subsection 2. The owner of the motor vehicle may be charged for equipment violations under subsection 1.

4. a. The nonuse of a safety belt or safety harness by a person is not admissible or material as evidence in a civil action brought for damages in a cause of action arising prior to July 1, 1986.

b. In a cause of action arising on or after July 1, 1986, brought to recover damages arising out of the ownership or operation of a motor vehicle, the failure to wear a safety belt or safety harness in violation of this section shall not be considered evidence of comparative fault under section 668.3, subsection 1. However, except as provided in section 321.446, subsection 6, the failure to wear a safety belt or safety harness in violation of this section may be admitted to mitigate damages, but only under the following circumstances:

(1) Parties seeking to introduce evidence of the failure to wear a safety belt or safety harness in violation of this section must first introduce substantial evidence that the failure to wear a safety belt

or safety harness contributed to the injury or injuries claimed by the plaintiff.

(2) If the evidence supports such a finding, the trier of fact may find that the plaintiff's failure to wear a safety belt or safety harness in violation of this section contributed to the plaintiff's claimed injury or injuries, and may reduce the amount of plaintiff's recovery by an amount not to exceed five percent of the damages awarded after any reductions for comparative fault.

5. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A providing exceptions from application of subsections 1 and 2 for front seats and front seat passengers of motor vehicles owned, leased, rented, or primarily used by persons with physical disabilities who use collapsible wheelchairs.

25.321.446 Child restraint devices.

1. A child under three years of age who is being transported in a motor vehicle subject to registration which has a gross weight of ten thousand pounds or less as specified by the manufacturer, except a school bus or motorcycle, shall be secured during transit by a child restraint system which meets federal motor vehicle safety standards and the system shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

2. A child at least three years of age but under six years of age who is being transported in a motor vehicle subject to registration which has a gross weight of ten thousand pounds or less as specified by the manufacturer, except a school bus or motorcycle, shall be secured during transit by either a child restraint system that meets federal motor vehicle safety standards and is used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, or by a safety belt or safety harness of a type approved under section 321.445.

3. This section does not apply to peace officers acting on official duty. This section also does not apply to the transportation of children in 1965 model year or older vehicles or authorized emergency vehicles. This section does not apply to the transportation of a child who has been certified by a physician licensed under chapter 148, 150, or 150A as having a medical, physical, or mental condition which prevents or makes inadvisable securing the child in a child restraint system, safety belt or safety harness.

4. The operator who violates subsection 1 or 2 is guilty of a misdemeanor and subject only to the penalty provisions of section 805.8, subsection 2, paragraph "x".

5. A person who is first charged for a violation of subsection 1 and who has not purchased or otherwise acquired a child restraint system shall not be convicted if the person produces in court, within a reasonable time, proof that the person has purchased or otherwise acquired a child restraint system which meets federal motor vehicle safety standards.

6. Failure to use a child restraint system, safety belts, or safety harnesses as required by this section does not constitute negligence nor is the failure admissible as evidence in a civil action.

25.321.447 to 25.321.448 reserved.

25.321.449 Motor carrier safety rules.

A person shall not operate a commercial vehicle on the highways of this state except in compliance with rules adopted by the department under chapter 17A. The rules shall be consistent with the federal motor carrier safety regulations promulgated under United States Code, Title 49, and found in 49 C.F.R. § 390-399 and adopted under chapter 17A which rules shall be to a date certain.*

Rules adopted under this section concerning driver qualifications, hours of service, and recordkeeping requirements do not apply to the operators of public utility trucks, trucks hauling gravel, construction trucks and equipment, trucks moving implements of husbandry, and special

trucks, other than a truck tractor, operating intrastate. Trucks for hire on construction projects are not exempt from this section.

Rules adopted under this section concerning driver age qualifications do not apply to drivers for private and for-hire motor carriers which operate solely intrastate except when the vehicle being driven is transporting a hazardous material in a quantity which requires placarding. The minimum age for the exempted intrastate operations is eighteen years of age.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, rules adopted under this section for drivers of commercial vehicles shall not apply to a driver of a commercial vehicle who is engaged exclusively in intrastate commerce, when the commercial vehicle's gross vehicle weight rating is 26,000 pounds or less, unless the vehicle is used to transport hazardous materials requiring a placard or if the vehicle is designed to transport more than fifteen passengers, including the driver. For the purpose of complying with the hours of service recordkeeping requirements under 49 C.F.R. § 395.1(e)(5), a driver's report of daily beginning and ending on-duty time submitted to the motor carrier at the end of each work week shall be considered acceptable motor carrier time records. In addition, rules adopted under this section shall not apply to a driver for a farm operation as defined in section 352.2, or for an agricultural interest when the commercial vehicle is operated between the farm as defined in section 352.2 and another farm, between the farm and a market for farm products, or between the farm and an agribusiness location. A driver or a driver-salesperson for a private carrier, who is not for hire and who is engaged exclusively in intrastate commerce, may drive twelve hours, be on duty sixteen hours in a twenty-four hour period and be on duty seventy hours in seven consecutive days or eighty hours in eight consecutive days. A driver-salesperson means as defined in 49 C.F.R. § 395.2, adopted as of a specific date by the department by rule.*

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, rules adopted under this section concerning physical and medical qualifications for drivers of commercial vehicles engaged in intrastate commerce shall not be construed as disqualifying any individual who was employed as a driver of commercial vehicles engaged in intrastate commerce whose physical or medical condition existed prior to July 29, 1996.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, rules adopted under this section concerning physical and medical qualifications for a driver shall not apply to a farmer or a farmer's hired help when operating a vehicle owned by the farmer while it is being used in connection with the intrastate transportation of fertilizers and chemicals used in the farmer's crop production.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, rules adopted under this section concerning physical and medical qualifications for a driver shall not apply to a farmer or a farmer's hired help when operating a vehicle owned by the farmer while it is being used in connection with the intrastate transportation of agricultural commodities or feed.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, rules adopted under this section shall not impose any requirements which impose any restrictions upon a person operating an implement of husbandry or pickup to transport fertilizers and pesticides in that person's agricultural operations.

Rules adopted under this section concerning periodic inspections shall not apply to special trucks as defined in section 321.1, subsection 76, and registered under section 321.121.

Rules adopted under this section shall not apply to vehicles used in combination provided the gross vehicle weight rating of the towing unit is ten thousand pounds or less and the gross combination weight rating is twenty-six thousand pounds or less.

25.321.450 Hazardous materials transportation regulations.

A person shall not transport or have transported or shipped within this state any hazardous material

except in compliance with rules adopted by the department under chapter 17A. The rules shall be consistent with the federal hazardous materials regulations adopted under United States Code, Title 49, and found in 49 C.F.R. § 107, 171 to 173, 177, 178, and 180.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section; rules adopted under this section concerning physical and medical qualifications for drivers of commercial vehicles engaged in intrastate commerce shall not be construed as disqualifying any individual who was employed as a driver of commercial vehicles engaged in intrastate commerce, and whose physical or medical condition existed, prior to July 29, 1996.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, or the age requirements under section 321.449, the age requirements under section 321.449 and the rules adopted under this section pertaining to compliance with regulations adopted under United States Code, Title 49, and found in 49 C.F.R. § 177.804, shall not apply to retail dealers of fertilizers, petroleum products, and pesticides and their employees while delivering fertilizers, petroleum products, and pesticides to farm customers within a one-hundred-mile radius of their retail place of business.

Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, rules adopted under this section shall not apply to a farmer or employees of a farmer when transporting an agricultural hazardous material between the sites in the farmer's agricultural operations unless the material is being transported on the interstate highway system. As used in this paragraph, "farmer" means a person engaged in the production or raising of crops, poultry, or livestock; "farmer" does not include a person who is a commercial applicator of agricultural chemicals or fertilizers.

25.321.451 to 25.321.453 reserved.

25.321.454 Width of vehicles.

The total outside width of any vehicle or the load on the vehicle shall not exceed eight feet except that a motor home, commercial motor vehicle, motor truck or trailer hauling grain or livestock, travel trailer, fifth-wheel travel trailer, or bus having a total outside width not exceeding eight feet six inches, exclusive of safety equipment, is exempt from the permit requirements of chapter 321E and may be operated on the public highways of the state. However, if hay, straw, or stover is moved on any implement of husbandry and the total width of load of the implement of husbandry exceeds eight feet in width, the implement of husbandry is not subject to the permit requirements of chapter 321E. If hay, straw, or stover is moved on any other vehicle subject to registration, the moves are subject to the permit requirements for transporting loads exceeding eight feet in width as required under chapter 321E.

25.321.455 Projecting loads on passenger vehicles.

No passenger-type vehicle shall be operated on any highway with any load carried thereon extending beyond the line of the fenders on the left side of such vehicle nor extending more than six inches beyond the line of the fenders on the right side thereof. Passengers shall not ride on any part of any vehicle unless it is expressly designed either for passenger use or designed for carrying livestock, merchandise, or freight.

25.321.456 Height of vehicles—permits—exemption.

A vehicle unladen or with load shall not exceed a height of thirteen feet, six inches, except by permit as provided in this section. However, a vehicle or combination of vehicles coupled together and used exclusively for the transportation of passenger vehicles, light delivery trucks, panel delivery

trucks, pickup trucks, or recreational vehicle chassis may operate without a permit provided that the height of the vehicle or vehicles coupled together does not exceed fourteen feet. This section shall not be construed to require any railroad or public authorities to provide sufficient vertical clearance to permit the operation of such vehicle upon the highways of this state. Any damage to highways, highway or railroad structures or underpasses caused by the height of any vehicle provided for by this section shall be borne by the operator or owner of the vehicle. Vehicles unladen or with load exceeding a height of thirteen feet, six inches but not exceeding fourteen feet may be operated with a permit issued by the department or jurisdictional local authorities. The permits shall be issued annually for a fee of twenty-five dollars and subject to rules adopted by the department. The state or a political subdivision shall not be liable for damage to any vehicle or its cargo if changes in vertical clearance of a structure are made subsequent to the issuance of a permit during the term of the permit

25.321.457 Maximum length.

1. A combination of four vehicles is not allowed on the highways of this state, except for power units saddle mounted on other power units which shall be restricted to a maximum overall length of seventy-five feet.
2. The maximum length of any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles operated on the highways of this state is as follows:
 - a. A single truck, unladen or with load, shall not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of forty feet.

When determining the overall length of a single truck, the following shall be excluded:

 - (1) Cargo extending not more than three feet beyond the front bumper and not more than four feet beyond the rear bumper when transporting motor vehicles, boats, and chassis.
 - (2) An unladen cargo carrying device extending no greater than twenty-four inches from the rear of the bed of the truck.
 - (3) A cargo carrying device with load.
 - b. A single bus shall not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of forty-five feet, except that buses constructed so as to contain a flexible part allowing articulation shall not exceed sixty-one feet.
 - c. A mobile home not in excess of forty-eight feet in length may be drawn by any motor vehicle, except a motor truck, provided that the mobile home and its towing unit are not in excess of an overall length of sixty feet. For the purposes of this subsection, a light delivery truck, panel delivery truck, or "pickup" is not a motor truck. A portable livestock loading chute not in excess of a length of thirteen feet including its hitch or tongue may be drawn by any vehicle or combination of vehicles, provided that the vehicle or combination of vehicles drawing the loading chute is not in excess of the legal length provided for such vehicles or combinations.
 - d. A combination of three vehicles coupled together one of which is a motor vehicle, unladen or with load, other than a truck tractor, shall not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of sixty feet.
 - e. A motor vehicle or combination of vehicles may be operated upon the highways of this state, irrespective of the length and weight limitations imposed by the laws of this state, if the motor vehicle or combination of vehicles is operated within the corporate limits of a city abutting a border of this state and such operations have been approved by ordinance of the city council and if the length and weight of the motor vehicle or combination of vehicles is in conformity with the laws relating to length and weight of the abutting state. If a city council has authorized such operation upon highways within the corporate limits, then the limit of travel for such motor vehicles or

combination of vehicles within the state is extended to the commercial zones as described by federal regulations concerning interstate commerce, 49 C.F.R. § 1048.101, and to the interstate system as provided in 23 U.S.C. § 127 and 49 U.S.C. § 31112(c), as amended by Pub. L. No. 104-59.

f. A trailer or semitrailer, laden or unladen, shall not have an overall length in excess of fifty-three feet when operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination exclusive of retractable extensions used to support the load. However, when a trailer or semitrailer is used exclusively for the transportation of passenger vehicles, light delivery trucks, panel delivery trucks, pickup trucks, recreational vehicle chassis, or boats, the load carried on the trailer or semitrailer may extend up to three feet beyond the front bumper and up to four feet beyond the rear bumper of the trailer or semitrailer.

g. A trailer or semitrailer, laden or unladen, shall not have an overall length in excess of twenty-eight feet six inches when operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination or truck tractor-semitrailer-semi-trailer combination. When the semitrailers in a truck tractor-semitrailer-semi-trailer combination are connected by a rigid frame extension including a fifth-wheel connection point attached to the rear frame of the first semitrailer, the length of the frame extension shall not be included when determining the overall length of the first semitrailer.

h. Power units designed to carry cargo, when used in combination with a trailer or semitrailer shall not exceed sixty-five feet in overall length for the combination exclusive of retractable extensions used to support the load. However, if a combination of vehicles is used exclusively for the transportation of passenger vehicles, light delivery trucks, panel delivery trucks, pickup trucks, recreational vehicle chassis, or boats, the load may extend up to three feet beyond the front bumper of the power unit and up to four feet beyond the rear bumper of the trailer or semitrailer.

i. A stinger-steered automobile transporter shall not have an overall length exceeding seventy-five feet, exclusive of retractable extensions used to support the load and all other devices or appurtenances related to the safe and efficient operation of the vehicle, except that the load may extend up to three feet beyond the front bumper and up to four feet beyond the rear bumper.

3. Fire fighting apparatus and vehicles operated during daylight hours when transporting poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural nature which cannot be readily disassembled when required for emergency repair of public service facilities or properties are not subject to the limitations on overall length of vehicles and combinations of vehicles imposed under this section. However, for operation during nighttime hours, these vehicles and the load being transported shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps at the extreme ends of the projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load. A member of the Iowa state patrol shall also be notified prior to the operation of the vehicle.

25.321.458 Loading beyond front.

The load upon any vehicle operated alone, or the load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not extend more than three feet beyond the front wheels of such vehicle or the front bumper of such vehicle if it is equipped with such a bumper.

25.321.459 reserved.

25.321.460 Spilling loads on highways.

A vehicle shall not be driven or moved on any highway by any person unless such vehicle is so constructed or loaded or the load securely covered as to prevent any of its load from dropping, sifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping or its load covering from dropping from the vehicle, except that sand may be dropped for the purpose of securing traction, or water or other substance may be

sprinkled on a roadway in cleaning or maintaining such roadway. The provisions of this section shall not apply to vehicles loaded with hay or stover or the products listed in section 321.466, subsections 5 and 6.

25.321.461 Trailers and towed vehicles.

When one vehicle is towing another the drawbar or other connection shall not exceed fifteen feet from one vehicle to the other except the connection between any two vehicles transporting poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of structural nature which cannot readily be dismembered.

If the towing vehicle is a motor truck and the towed vehicle is a single trailer with a single point of articulation at the hitch connection, the drawbar or other connection shall not exceed twenty-one feet. The length of the drawbar or other connection shall be measured from the centerline of the hitch assembly on the towing vehicle to the front of the body of the towed vehicle. A vehicle which has a drawbar or other connection which measures between fifteen and twenty-one feet in length shall have at least one yellow reflector visible on each vertical face of the drawbar or other connection, located near the midpoint between the towing and the towed vehicle. A vehicle which has a drawbar or other connection which measures between fifteen and twenty-one feet in length shall have affixed to the rear of the towed vehicle a sign indicating that the vehicle is a towed vehicle.

25.321.462 Drawbars and safety chains.

When one vehicle is towing or pulling another vehicle the drawbar or other connection shall be of sufficient strength to pull all weight towed thereby and shall be fastened to the frame of the towing vehicle in such manner as to prevent sideway, and in addition to such principal connection there shall be a safety chain which shall be so fastened as to be capable of holding the towed vehicle should the principal connection for any reason fail.

VALIDITY

25.321.500 Validity. Should any section, sentence, clause or provision of this Ordinance be declared by a court to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

PENALTIES

25.321.600 Penalties. Any person, firm, corporation, partnership or any legal entity who violates this ordinance shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisoned for not more than thirty days in lieu of a fine or in addition to a fine.

ENACTMENT AND EFFECTIVE DATE

This enactment shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and adoption as provided by law.

Passed this 2nd day of January, 2002

Chairman, Mitchell County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:


Lowell Tesch, Mitchell County Auditor