

CHAPTER 284

S.B. No. 16

An Act relating to application of width regulations to certain vehicles traveling on public highways; amending Subdivisions (2) and (3), Subsection (a), Section 3, Chapter 42, General Laws, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 1929 (Article 6701d-11, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Subdivisions (2) and (3), Subsection (a), Section 3, Chapter 42, General Laws, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 1929 (Article 6701d-11, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), are amended to read as follows:

“(2) The width limit in Subdivision (1) of this subsection does not apply to the following vehicles traveling during the daylight hours on a public highway, including a highway designated under Section 3-1/2 of this Act, but excluding a highway that is part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways:

“(A) machinery used solely for drilling water wells, including machinery that is a unit in itself or that is a unit mounted on a conventional vehicle or chassis;

“(B) highway building or maintenance machinery;

“(C) a farm tractor or implement of husbandry; and

“(D) a vehicle on which a farm tractor or implement of husbandry is being moved by the owner or an agent or employee of the owner of the tractor or implement:

“(i) to deliver the tractor or implement to a new owner;

“(ii) to transport the tractor or implement to or from a mechanic for maintenance or repair; or

“(iii) in the course of an agricultural operation [limitations in this subdivision apply only on highways designated under Section 3-1/2 of this Act. No vehicle shall exceed a total outside width, including any load thereon, of ninety/six (96) inches, except that the width of a farm tractor shall not exceed nine (9) feet, excepting further that the limitations as to size of vehicle stated in this subdivision shall not apply to implements of husbandry, machinery used solely for the purpose of drilling water wells regardless of whether it is a unit in itself or is a unit mounted on a conventional vehicle or chassis, and highway building and maintenance machinery temporarily propelled or moved upon the public highways, excepting further, that the limitations as to size of vehicles stated in this subdivision shall not apply to vehicles on which implements of husbandry are being carried or moved provided such vehicles are being moved by the owner thereof or his agent or employee for the purpose of delivering implements to their owner, delivering the implements to a mechanic for maintenance or repair, or carrying on agricultural operations, and provided further that such implements are being moved or carried a distance of not more than fifty (50) miles, and excepting further, that the width of a motor bus or trolley bus operated exclusively within the limits of an incorporated city or town in this State and suburbs contiguous thereto and the county in which said incorporated city is located shall not exceed one hundred and two (102) inches].

“(3) *The width of a motor bus or trolley bus operated exclusively in the limits of an incorporated city or town, in suburbs contiguous to the city or town, or in the county in which the city or town is located may not exceed one hundred and two (102) inches. A vehicle used to carry cylindrically shaped bales of hay may exceed ninety-six (96) inches in width but its width may not exceed one hundred and forty-four (144) [one hundred and twenty (120)] inches when operated on a highway designated under Section 3-1/2 of this Act. When a vehicle used to carry cylindrically shaped bales of hay is operated on a highway not designated under Section 3-1/2 of this Act, its maximum width shall not exceed one hundred and forty-four (144) [one hundred and two (102)] inches.*”

SECTION 2. A violation of the width limits in Subsection (a), Section 3, Chapter 42, General Laws, Acts of the 41st Legislature, 2nd Called Session, 1929 (Article 6701d-11, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), that occurred before the effective date of this Act is subject to the law in effect when the violation occurred, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on March 18, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 0; passed the House on May 25, 1985, by a non-record vote.

Approved: June 6, 1985

Effective: August 26, 1985