

By: Wentworth

S.B. No. 645

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the permissible size of certain recreational vehicles operated on a public highway.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter Y, Chapter 622, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Section 622.901 and adding Section 622.903 to read as follows:

Sec. 622.901. WIDTH EXCEPTIONS. The width limitation provided by Section 621.201 does not apply to:

(1) highway building or maintenance machinery that is traveling:

(A) during daylight on a public highway other than a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways; or

(B) for not more than 50 miles on a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways;

(2) a vehicle traveling during daylight on a public highway other than a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways or traveling for not more than 50 miles on a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways if the vehicle is:

(A) a farm tractor or implement of husbandry; or

(B) a vehicle on which a farm tractor or implement of husbandry, other than a tractor or implement being

1 transported from one dealer to another, is being moved by the owner  
2 of the tractor or implement or by an agent or employee of the owner:

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

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

7 (iii) in the course of an agricultural  
8 operation;

9 (3) machinery that is used solely for drilling water  
10 wells, including machinery that is a unit or a unit mounted on a  
11 conventional vehicle or chassis, and that is traveling:

12 (A) during daylight on a public highway other  
13 than a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and  
14 defense highways; or

15 (B) for not more than 50 miles on a highway that  
16 is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways;

17 (4) a vehicle owned or operated by a public, private,  
18 or volunteer fire department; ~~[or]~~

19 (5) a vehicle registered under Section 502.164; or

20 (6) a recreational vehicle to which Section 622.903  
21 applies.

22 Sec. 622.903. WIDTH LIMITATION ON CERTAIN RECREATIONAL  
23 VEHICLES. (a) In this section:

24 (1) "Appurtenance" includes an awning, a grab handle,  
25 lighting equipment, or a vent. The term does not include a  
26 load-carrying device.

27 (2) "Recreational vehicle" has the meaning assigned by

1 Section 522.004.

2 (b) A recreational vehicle may exceed a width limitation  
3 established by Section 621.201 or 621.202 if the excess width is  
4 attributable to an appurtenance that extends six inches or less  
5 beyond a fender on one or both sides of the vehicle.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.