

AN ACT

relating to requirements for certain farm vehicles when operating on a highway.

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

SECTION 1. Section 541.201(6), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(6) "Implement of husbandry" means:

(A) a vehicle, other than a passenger car or truck, that is designed and adapted for use as a farm implement, machinery, or tool for tilling the soil;

(B) a towed vehicle that transports to the field and spreads fertilizer or agricultural chemicals; or

(C) a motor vehicle designed and adapted to deliver feed to livestock.

SECTION 2. Section 622.901, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 622.901. WIDTH EXCEPTIONS. (a) In this section, "farm tractor" and "implement of husbandry" have the meanings assigned by Section 541.201.

(b) 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

1 than a highway that is part of the national system of interstate and
2 defense highways; or

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

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

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

11 (B) a vehicle on which a farm tractor or
12 implement of husbandry, other than a tractor or implement being
13 transported from one dealer to another, is being moved by the owner
14 of the tractor or implement or by an agent or employee of the owner:

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

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

19 (iii) in the course of an agricultural
20 operation;

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

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

27 (B) for not more than 50 miles on a highway that

1 is part of the national system of interstate and defense highways;
 2 (4) a vehicle owned or operated by a public, private,
 3 or volunteer fire department;
 4 (5) a vehicle registered under Section 502.431; or
 5 (6) a recreational vehicle to which Section 622.903
 6 applies.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 971 passed the Senate on April 30, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 971 passed the House on May 8, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor