

Missouri

Missouri Revised Statutes

TITLE XIX MOTOR VEHICLES, WATERCRAFT AND AVIATION

Trailer definition:

A trailer is a unit attached to and towed by a motorized vehicle designed to carry property and/or passengers. A trailer cannot be motorized or self-operable. A trailer may include (but is not limited to) the following:

- Homemade trailers;
- Kit trailers;
- Farm wagons;
- Boat trailers;
- Utility trailers;
- Flat bed trailers;
- Semi trailers;
- Livestock trailers; and
- Camping trailers

Regulations as to width, height and length of vehicles--tractor parades permitted.

304.170. 1. No vehicle operated upon the highways of this state shall have a width, including load, in excess of one hundred two inches, except clearance lights, rearview mirrors or other accessories required by federal, state or city law or regulation. Provided however, a recreational vehicle as defined in section [700.010](#) may exceed the foregoing width limits if the appurtenances on such recreational vehicle extend no further than the rearview mirrors. Such mirrors may only extend the distance necessary to provide the required field of view before the appurtenances were attached.

2. No vehicle operated upon the interstate highway system or upon any route designated by the chief engineer of the state transportation department shall have a height, including load, in excess of fourteen feet. On all other highways, no vehicle shall have a height, including load, in excess of thirteen and one-half feet, except that any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting automobiles or other motor vehicles may have a height, including load, of not more than fourteen feet.

3. No single motor vehicle operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length, including load, in excess of forty-five feet, except as otherwise provided in this section.

4. No bus, recreational motor vehicle or trackless trolley coach operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length in excess of forty-five feet, except that such vehicles may exceed the forty-five feet length when such excess length is caused by the projection of a front safety bumper or a rear safety bumper or both. Such safety bumper shall not cause the length of the bus or recreational motor vehicle to exceed the forty-five feet length limit by more than one foot in the front and one foot in the rear. The term "safety bumper" means any device which may be fitted on an existing bumper or which replaces the bumper and is so constructed, treated, or manufactured that it absorbs energy upon impact.

5. No combination of truck-tractor and semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and semitrailer operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length, including load, in excess of sixty feet; except that in order to comply with the provisions of Title 23 of the United States Code (Public Law 97-424), no combination of truck-tractor and semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and semitrailer operated upon the interstate highway system of this state shall have an overall length, including load, in excess of the length of the truck-tractor plus the semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and semitrailer. The length of such semitrailer shall not exceed fifty-three feet.

6. In order to comply with the provisions of Title 23 of the United States Code (Public Law 97-424), no combination of truck-tractor, semitrailer and trailer operated upon the interstate highway system of this state shall have an overall length, including load, in excess of the length of the truck-tractor plus the semitrailer and trailer, neither of which semitrailer or trailer shall exceed twenty-eight feet in length, except that any existing semitrailer or trailer up to twenty-eight and one-half feet in length actually and lawfully operated on December 1, 1982, within a sixty-five foot overall length limit in any state, may continue to be operated upon the interstate highways of this state. On those primary highways not designated by the state highways and transportation commission as provided in subsection 10 of this section, no combination of truck-tractor, semitrailer and trailer shall have an overall length, including load, in excess of sixty-five feet; provided, however, the state highways and transportation commission may designate additional routes for such sixty-five foot combinations.

7. Automobile transporters, boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter combinations, stinger-steered combination automobile transporters and stinger-steered combination boat transporters having a length not in excess of seventy-five feet may be operated on the interstate highways of this state and such other highways as may be designated by the highways and transportation commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a distance not to exceed ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. All length provisions regarding automobile or boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter combinations and stinger-steered combinations shall include a semitrailer length not to exceed fifty-three feet and are exclusive of front and rear overhang, which shall be no greater than a three-foot front overhang and no greater than a four-foot rear overhang.

8. Driveaway saddlemount combinations having a length not in excess of ninety-seven feet may be operated on the interstate highways of this state and such other highways as may be designated by the highways and transportation commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a distance not to exceed ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. Saddlemount combinations must comply with the safety requirements of Section 393.71 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations and may contain no more than three saddlemounted vehicles and one fullmount.

9. No truck-tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination vehicles operated upon the interstate and designated primary highway system of this state shall have a semitrailer length in excess of twenty-eight feet or twenty-eight and one-half feet if the semitrailer was in actual and lawful operation in any state on December 1, 1982, operating in a truck-tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination. The B-train assembly is excluded from the measurement of semitrailer length when used between the first and second semitrailer of a truck-tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination, except that when there is no semitrailer mounted to the B-train assembly, it shall be included in the length measurement of the semitrailer.

10. The highways and transportation commission is authorized to designate routes on the state highway system other than the interstate system over which those combinations of vehicles of the lengths specified in subsections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of this section may be operated. Combinations of vehicles operated under the provisions of subsections 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of this section may be operated at a distance not to exceed ten miles from the interstate system and such routes as designated under the provisions of this subsection.

11. Except as provided in subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of this section, no other combination of vehicles operated upon the primary or interstate highways of this state plus a distance of ten miles from a primary or interstate highway shall have an overall length, unladen or with load, in excess of sixty-five feet or in excess of fifty-five feet on any other highway, except the state highways and transportation commission may designate additional routes for use by sixty-five foot combinations, seventy-five foot stinger-steered combinations or seventy-five foot saddlemount combinations. Any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting automobiles, boats or other motor vehicles may carry a load which extends no more than three feet beyond the front and four feet beyond the rear of the transporting vehicle or combination of vehicles.

12. (1) Except as hereinafter provided, these restrictions shall not apply to agricultural implements operating occasionally on the highways for short distances including tractor parades for fund-raising activities or special events, provided the tractors are driven by licensed drivers during daylight hours only and with the approval of the superintendent of the Missouri state highway patrol; or to self-propelled hay-hauling equipment or to implements of husbandry, or to the movement of farm products as defined in section [400.9-102](#) or to vehicles temporarily transporting agricultural implements or implements of husbandry or road-making machinery, or road materials or towing for repair purposes vehicles that have become disabled upon the highways; or to implement dealers delivering or moving farm machinery for repairs on any state highway other than the interstate system.

(2) Implements of husbandry and vehicles transporting such machinery or equipment and the movement of farm products as defined in section [400.9-102](#) may be operated occasionally for short distances on state highways when operated between the hours of sunrise and sunset by a driver licensed as an operator or chauffeur.

13. As used in this chapter the term "implements of husbandry" means all self-propelled machinery operated at speeds of less than thirty miles per hour, specifically designed for, or especially adapted to be capable of, incidental over-the-road and primary offroad usage and used exclusively for the application of commercial plant food materials or agricultural chemicals, and not specifically designed or intended for transportation of such chemicals and materials.

14. Sludge disposal units may be operated on all state highways other than the interstate system. Such units shall not exceed one hundred thirty-eight inches in width and may be equipped with over-width tires. Such units shall observe all axle weight limits. The chief engineer of the state transportation department shall issue special permits for the movement of such disposal units and may by such permits restrict the movements to specified routes, days and hours.

Height and weight regulations (cities of 75,000 or more)--commercial zone defined.

304.190. 1. No motor vehicle, unladen or with load, operating exclusively within the corporate limits of cities containing seventy-five thousand inhabitants or more or within two miles of the corporate limits of the city or within the commercial zone of the city shall exceed fifteen feet in height.

2. No motor vehicle operating exclusively within any said area shall have a greater weight than twenty-two thousand four hundred pounds on one axle.

3. The "commercial zone" of the city is defined to mean that area within the city together with the territory extending one mile beyond the corporate limits of the city and one mile additional for each fifty thousand population or portion thereof provided, however:

(1) The commercial zone surrounding a city not within a county shall extend twenty-five miles beyond the corporate limits of any such city not located within a county and shall also extend throughout any county with a charter form of government which adjoins that city and throughout any county with a charter form of government and with more than two hundred fifty thousand but fewer than three hundred fifty thousand inhabitants that is adjacent to such county adjoining such city;

(2) The commercial zone of a city with a population of at least four hundred thousand inhabitants but not more than four hundred fifty thousand inhabitants shall extend twelve miles beyond the corporate limits of any such city; except that this zone shall extend from the southern border of such city's limits, beginning with the western-most freeway, following said freeway south to the

first intersection with a multilane undivided highway, where the zone shall extend south along said freeway to include a city of the fourth classification with more than eight thousand nine hundred but less than nine thousand inhabitants, and shall extend north from the intersection of said freeway and multilane undivided highway along the multilane undivided highway to the city limits of a city with a population of at least four hundred thousand inhabitants but not more than four hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, and shall extend east from the city limits of a special charter city with more than two hundred seventy-five but fewer than three hundred seventy-five inhabitants along State Route 210 and northwest from the intersection of State Route 210 and State Route 10 to include the boundaries of any city of the third classification with more than ten thousand eight hundred but fewer than ten thousand nine hundred inhabitants and located in more than one county. The commercial zone shall continue east along State Route 10 from the intersection of State Route 10 and State Route 210 to the eastern city limit of a city of the fourth classification with more than five hundred fifty but fewer than six hundred twenty-five inhabitants and located in any county of the third classification without a township form of government and with more than twenty-three thousand but fewer than twenty-six thousand inhabitants and with a city of the third classification with more than five thousand but fewer than six thousand inhabitants as the county seat. The commercial zone described in this subdivision shall be extended to also include the stretch of State Route 45 from its intersection with Interstate 29 extending northwest to the city limits of any village with more than forty but fewer than fifty inhabitants and located in any county of the first classification with more than eighty-three thousand but fewer than ninety-two thousand inhabitants and with a city of the fourth classification with more than four thousand five hundred but fewer than five thousand inhabitants as the county seat;

(3) The commercial zone of a city of the third classification with more than nine thousand six hundred fifty but fewer than nine thousand eight hundred inhabitants shall extend south from the city limits along U.S. Highway 61 to the intersection of State Route OO in a county of the third classification without a township form of government and with more than seventeen thousand eight hundred but fewer than seventeen thousand nine hundred inhabitants;

(4) The commercial zone of a home rule city with more than one hundred eight thousand but fewer than one hundred sixteen thousand inhabitants shall extend north from the city limits along U.S. Highway 63 for eight miles, and shall extend east from the city limits along State Route WW to the intersection of State Route J and continue south on State Route J for four miles.

4. In no case shall the commercial zone of a city be reduced due to a loss of population. The provisions of this section shall not apply to motor vehicles operating on the interstate highways in the area beyond two miles of a corporate limit of the city unless the United States Department of Transportation increases the allowable weight limits on the interstate highway system within commercial zones. In such case, the mileage limits established in this section shall be automatically increased only in the commercial zones to conform with those authorized by the United States Department of Transportation.

5. Nothing in this section shall prevent a city, county, or municipality, by ordinance, from designating the routes over which such vehicles may be operated.

6. No motor vehicle engaged in interstate commerce, whether unladen or with load, whose operations in the state of Missouri are limited exclusively to the commercial zone of a first class home rule municipality located in a county with a population between eighty thousand and ninety-five thousand inhabitants which has a portion of its corporate limits contiguous with a portion of the boundary between the states of Missouri and Kansas, shall have a greater weight than twenty-two thousand four hundred pounds on one axle, nor shall exceed fifteen feet in height.\

01.067. **Trailer** or semitrailer registration required, fee — optional period fee for certain **trailers** and semitrailers — permanent registration allowed, procedure

- **1.** For each **trailer** or semitrailer there shall be paid an annual fee of seven dollars fifty cents, and in addition thereto such permit fee authorized by law against **trailers** used in combination with tractors operated under the supervision of the motor carrier and railroad **safety** division of the department of economic development. The fees for tractors used in any combination with **trailers** or semitrailers or both **trailers** and semitrailers (other than on passenger-carrying **trailers** or semitrailers) shall be computed on the total gross weight of the vehicles in the combination with load.
- **2.** Any **trailer** or semitrailer may at the option of the registrant be registered for a period of three years upon payment of a registration fee of twenty-two dollars and fifty cents.
- **3.** Any **trailer** as defined in [section 301.010](#) or semitrailer which is operated coupled to a towing vehicle by a fifth wheel and kingpin assembly or by a **trailer** converter dolly may, at the option of the registrant, be registered permanently upon the payment of a registration fee of fifty-two dollars and fifty cents. The permanent plate and registration fee is vehicle specific. The plate and the registration fee paid is nontransferable and nonrefundable, except those covered under the provisions of [section 301.442](#).

§ 307.105. Limitation on total of **lamps** lighted at one time—violation, penalty

- **1.** At the times when lighted **lamps** are required, at least two lighted **lamps** shall be displayed, one on each side of the front of every motor vehicle except a motorcycle and except a motor-drawn vehicle except when such vehicle is parked subject to the provisions governing lights on parked vehicles. Whenever a motor vehicle equipped with headlamps as in this chapter required is also equipped with any auxiliary **lamps** or a spotlight or any other **lamp** on the front thereof projecting a beam of an intensity greater than three hundred candlepower, not more than a total of four of any such **lamps** on the front of a vehicle shall be lighted at any one time when upon a highway.
- **2.** Notwithstanding the provisions of [section 307.120](#), violation of this section is an infraction.

§ 307.170. Other equipment of **motor vehicles**—violations, penalty

- **1.** Signaling devices: Every **motor vehicle** shall be equipped with a horn, directed forward, or whistle in good working order, capable of emitting a sound adequate in

quantity and volume to give warning of the approach of such **vehicle** to other users of the highway and to pedestrians. Such signaling device shall be used for warning purposes only and shall not be used for making any unnecessary noise, and no other sound-producing signaling device shall be used at any time.

- **2. Muffler cutouts:** Muffler cutouts shall not be used and no **vehicle** shall be driven in such manner or condition that excessive and unnecessary noises shall be made by its machinery, **motor**, signaling device, or other parts, or by any improperly loaded cargo. The **motors** of all **motorvehicles** shall be fitted with properly attached mufflers of such capacity or construction as to quiet the maximum possible exhaust noise as completely as is done in modern gas engine passenger **motor vehicles**. Any cutout or opening in the exhaust pipe between the **motor** and the muffler on any **motor vehicle** shall be completely closed and disconnected from its operating lever, and shall be so arranged that it cannot automatically open, or be opened or operated while such **vehicle** is in motion.
- **3. Brakes:** All **motor vehicles**, except motorcycles, shall be provided at all times with two sets of adequate brakes, kept in good working order, and motorcycles shall be provided with one set of adequate brakes kept in good working order.
- **4. Mirrors:** All **motor vehicles** which are so constructed or loaded that the operator cannot see the road behind such **vehicle** by looking back or around the side of such **vehicle** shall be equipped with a **mirror** so adjusted as to reveal the road behind and be visible from the operator's seat.
- **5. Projections on vehicles:** All **vehicles** carrying poles or other objects, which project more than five feet from the rear of such **vehicle**, shall, during the period when lights are required by this chapter, carry a red light at or near the rear end of the pole or other object so projecting. At other times a red flag or cloth, not less than sixteen inches square, shall be displayed at the end of such projection.
- **6. Towlines:** When one **vehicle** is towing another, the connecting device shall not exceed fifteen feet. During the time that lights are required by [sections 307.020](#) to [307.120](#), the required lights shall be displayed by both **vehicles**. Every towed **vehicle** shall be coupled to the towing **vehicle** by means of a safety chain, cable, or equivalent device in addition to the primary coupling device, except that such secondary coupling device shall not be necessary if the connecting device is connected to the towing **vehicle** by a center-locking ball located over or nearly over the rear axle and not supported by the rear bumper of the towing **vehicle**. Such secondary safety connecting devices shall be of sufficient strength to control the towed **vehicle** in the event of failure of the primary coupling device. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to wreckers towing **vehicles** or to **vehicles** secured to the towing **vehicle** by a fifth-wheel type connection.
- **7.** The provisions of subsection 6 of this section shall not apply to farm implements, or to any **vehicle** which is not required to be registered.

- **8.** Commercial **motor vehicles** and trailers: When being operated on any highway of this state shall be equipped with adequate and proper brakes, lighting equipment, signaling devices, steering mechanisms, horns, **mirrors**, windshield wipers, tires, wheels, exhaust system, glazing, air pollution control devices, fuel tank, and any other safety equipment required by the state in such condition so as to obtain a certificate of inspection and approval as required by the provisions of [section 307.360](#).
- **9.** Devices attached to or towed by **motor vehicles** for the purpose of transporting hay shall have the protruding parts raised or retracted when not in use to a position which will not cause injury or damage to persons or property in the vicinity of such device when on the highways of this state.
- **10.** Violation of this section shall be deemed an infraction.