

By the Committees on Transportation and Economic Development  
Appropriations; Agriculture; and Senator Baker

606-07675-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to motor vehicles; amending s. 316.515,  
3 F.S.; revising restrictions on use of certain agriculture-  
4 related vehicles; providing for exemptions from width  
5 limitations for certain farming or agricultural equipment;  
6 providing conditions for use of such equipment;  
7 authorizing certain movements without an overwidth permit  
8 from the Department of Transportation; providing lighting  
9 requirements for certain overwidth equipment; providing an  
10 effective date.

11  
12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

13  
14 Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 316.515, Florida  
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 316.515 Maximum width, height, length.--

17 (5) IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY AND FARM EQUIPMENT;  
18 AGRICULTURAL TRAILERS; FORESTRY EQUIPMENT; SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.--

19 (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, straight  
20 trucks, agricultural tractors, and cotton module movers, not  
21 exceeding 50 feet in length, or any combination of up to and  
22 including three implements of husbandry, including the towing  
23 power unit, and any single agricultural trailer with a load  
24 thereon or any agricultural implements attached to a towing power  
25 unit ~~not exceeding 130 inches in width~~, or a self-propelled  
26 agricultural implement or an agricultural tractor ~~not exceeding~~  
27 ~~130 inches in width~~, is authorized for the purpose of  
28 transporting peanuts, grains, soybeans, cotton, hay, straw, or  
29 other perishable farm products from their point of production to

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30 | the first point of change of custody or of long-term storage, and  
31 | for the purpose of returning to such point of production, or for  
32 | the purpose of moving such tractors, movers, and implements from  
33 | one point of agricultural production to another, by a person  
34 | engaged in the production of any such product or custom hauler,  
35 | if such vehicle or combination of vehicles otherwise complies  
36 | with this section. ~~The Department of Transportation may issue~~  
37 | ~~overwidth permits for implements of husbandry greater than 130~~  
38 | ~~inches, but not more than 170 inches, in width.~~ The Department of  
39 | Transportation may issue overlength permits for cotton module  
40 | movers greater than 50 feet but not more than 55 feet in overall  
41 | length. Such vehicles shall be operated in accordance with all  
42 | safety requirements prescribed by law and rules of the Department  
43 | of Transportation.

44 | (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, equipment  
45 | not exceeding 136 inches in width and not capable of speeds  
46 | exceeding 20 miles per hour which is used exclusively for  
47 | harvesting forestry products is authorized for the purpose of  
48 | transporting equipment from one point of harvest to another point  
49 | of harvest, not to exceed 10 miles, by a person engaged in the  
50 | harvesting of forestry products. Such vehicles must be operated  
51 | during daylight hours only, in accordance with all safety  
52 | requirements prescribed by s. 316.2295(5) and (6).

53 | (c) The width and height limitations of this section do not  
54 | apply to farming or agricultural equipment, whether self-  
55 | propelled, pulled, or hauled, when temporarily operated during  
56 | daylight hours upon a public road that is not a limited access  
57 | facility as defined in s. 334.03(13), and the width and height  
58 | limitations may be exceeded by such equipment without a permit.

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59 To be eligible for this exemption, the equipment shall be  
60 operated within a radius of 50 miles of the real property owned,  
61 rented, or leased by the equipment owner. However, farming or  
62 agricultural equipment greater than 174 inches in width is  
63 required to have one warning lamp mounted on each side of the  
64 equipment to denote the width and a slow-moving vehicle sign.  
65 Warning lamps required by this paragraph are required to be  
66 visible from the front and rear of the vehicle and must be  
67 visible from a distance of at least 1,000 feet.

68 (d) The operator of equipment operated under this  
69 subsection is responsible for verifying that the route used has  
70 adequate clearance for the equipment.

71 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.