

Committee Substitute for  
Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1946

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

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

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

316.515 Maximum width, height, length.—

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

(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, straight trucks, agricultural tractors, and cotton module movers, not exceeding 50 feet in length, or any combination of up to and including three implements of husbandry, including the towing power unit, and any single agricultural trailer with a load thereon or any agricultural implements attached to a towing power unit ~~not exceeding 130 inches in width~~, or a self-propelled agricultural implement or an agricultural tractor ~~not exceeding 130 inches in width~~, is authorized for the purpose of transporting peanuts, grains, soybeans, cotton, hay, straw, or other perishable farm products from their point of production to the first point of change of custody or of long-term storage, and for the purpose of returning to such point of production, or for the purpose of moving such tractors, movers, and implements from one point of agricultural production to another, by a person engaged in the production of any such product or custom hauler, if such vehicle or combination of vehicles otherwise complies with this section. ~~The Department of Transportation may issue overwidth permits for implements of husbandry greater than 130 inches, but not more than 170 inches, in width.~~ The Department of Transportation may issue overlength permits for cotton module movers greater than 50 feet but not more than 55 feet in overall length. Such vehicles shall be operated in accordance with all safety requirements prescribed by law and rules of the Department of Transportation.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, equipment not exceeding 136 inches in width and not capable of speeds exceeding 20 miles per hour which is used exclusively for harvesting forestry products is authorized for the purpose of transporting equipment from one point of harvest to another point of harvest, not to exceed 10 miles, by a person engaged in the harvesting of forestry products. Such vehicles must be operated during daylight

hours only, in accordance with all safety requirements prescribed by s. 316.2295(5) and (6).

(c) The width and height limitations of this section do not apply to farming or agricultural equipment, whether self-propelled, pulled, or hauled, when temporarily operated during daylight hours upon a public road that is not a limited access facility as defined in s. 334.03(13), and the width and height limitations may be exceeded by such equipment without a permit. To be eligible for this exemption, the equipment shall be operated within a radius of 50 miles of the real property owned, rented, or leased by the equipment owner. However, equipment being delivered by a dealer to a purchaser is not subject to the 50-mile limitation. Farming or agricultural equipment greater than 174 inches in width must have one warning lamp mounted on each side of the equipment to denote the width and must have a slow-moving vehicle sign. Warning lamps required by this paragraph must be visible from the front and rear of the vehicle and must be visible from a distance of at least 1,000 feet.

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

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

Approved by the Governor June 30, 2008.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 30, 2008.