

## CHAPTER 130

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**MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC REGULATION**

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HOUSE BILL 95-1085

BY REPRESENTATIVE June;  
also SENATOR Casey.**AN ACT****CONCERNING CERTAIN COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES THAT MAY BE USED IN COMBINATION TO  
TRANSPORT PROPERTY.***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

**SECTION 1.** 42-1-102 (17), (86), (89), and (109), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1993 Repl. Vol., as amended, are amended, and the said 42-1-102 is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION, to read:

**42-1-102. Definitions.** As used in articles 1 to 4 of this title, unless the context otherwise requires:

(17) "Commercial carrier" means any owner of a motor vehicle, truck, LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractor, trailer, or semitrailer used in the business of transporting persons or property over the public highways for profit, hire, or otherwise in any business or commercial enterprise.

(86) "Saddlemount combination" means a combination of vehicles in which a truck or LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractor tows one or more additional trucks or LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractors and in which each such towed truck or LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractor is connected by a saddle to the frame or fifth wheel of the vehicle immediately in front of such truck or LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractor. For the purposes of this subsection (86), "saddle" means a mechanism which connects the front axle of a towed vehicle to the frame or fifth wheel of a vehicle immediately in front of such towed vehicle and which functions like a fifth wheel kingpin connection. A saddlemount combination may include one fullmount.

(89) "Semitrailer" means any wheeled vehicle, without  ~~motive~~ MOTOR power, ~~which is~~ designed to be used in conjunction with a LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractor

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*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*

so that some part of its own weight and that of its cargo load rests upon or is carried by such LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractor and ~~which~~ THAT is generally and commonly used to carry and transport property over the public highways.

(109) "Truck tractor - LADEN" OR "LADEN TRUCK TRACTOR" means any motor vehicle ~~which is~~ CARRYING CARGO OR DESIGNED TO CARRY CARGO THAT IS generally and commonly designed and used to draw a semitrailer OR TRAILER and its cargo load over the public highways.

(109.5) "TRUCK TRACTOR - UNLADEN" OR "UNLADEN TRUCK TRACTOR" MEANS ANY MOTOR VEHICLE NOT CARRYING CARGO THAT IS GENERALLY AND COMMONLY DESIGNED AND USED TO DRAW A SEMITRAILER OR TRAILER AND ITS CARGO LOAD OVER THE PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

**SECTION 2.** 42-3-106 (1) (a) and (1) (b), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1993 Repl. Vol., as amended, are amended to read:

**42-3-106. Classification - taxable value - imposition of tax.** (1) For the purpose of imposing graduated annual specific ownership taxes, the personal property specified in section 6 of article X of the state constitution, more particularly defined in section 42-1-102, is classified as follows:

(a) Every motor vehicle, truck, LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractor, trailer, and semitrailer used in the business of transporting persons or property over any public highway in this state as an interstate commercial carrier, whether or not such business is engaged in by contract, for which an application is made for apportioned registration, regardless of base jurisdiction, shall be Class A personal property.

(b) Every truck, LADEN OR UNLADEN truck tractor, trailer, and semitrailer used for the purpose of transporting property over any public highway in this state and not included in Class A shall be Class B personal property.

**SECTION 3.** 42-3-128 (2), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1993 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended to read:

**42-3-128. Nonresidents.** (2) An owner or operator of a foreign vehicle operated within this state for the transportation of persons or property for compensation or for the transportation of merchandise shall register such vehicle and pay the same fees therefor as required with reference to like vehicles owned by residents of this state, but the registration or reregistration in this state of any motor vehicle, truck, SEMITRACTOR, truck tractor, bus, trailer, or semitrailer, or any combination thereof, shall be required of vehicles registered in a foreign state or country but only in accordance with a registration reciprocity ~~which~~ THAT exists between the state of Colorado and the foreign state, country, territory, or possession.

**SECTION 4.** 42-4-504 (4), (5), and (6), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1993 Repl. Vol., as amended, are amended, and the said 42-4-504 is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SUBSECTION, to read:

**42-4-504. Height and length of vehicles.** (4) No combination of vehicles coupled together shall consist of more than four units, and no such combination of

vehicles shall exceed a total overall length of seventy feet. Said length limitation shall not apply to ~~truck tractor-semitrailer~~ UNLADEN TRUCK TRACTOR-SEMITRAILER combinations when the semitrailer is fifty-seven feet four inches or less in length or to ~~truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer~~ UNLADEN TRUCK TRACTOR-SEMITRAILER-TRAILER combinations when ~~both~~ the semitrailer and the trailer are EACH twenty-eight feet six inches or less in length. Said length limitation shall also not apply to saddle mount combinations, which shall not exceed seventy-five feet in total overall length. Said length limitations shall also not apply to vehicles operated by a public utility when required for emergency repair of public service facilities or properties or when operated under special permit as provided in section 42-4-510, but, in respect to night transportation, every such vehicle and the load thereon shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of such load. Said length limitations shall also not apply to specialized equipment used in combination for transporting automobiles or boats when such specialized equipment is stinger-steered, as defined in section 42-1-102 (99), and the combination does not exceed seventy-five feet in length exclusive of safety devices, which safety devices shall not be designed or used for carrying cargo. The limitations provided in this section shall be strictly construed and enforced. Extensions of not more than eighteen inches in length on each end of a vehicle or combination of vehicles used to transport manufactured vehicles shall not be included in measuring the length of such vehicle or combination of vehicles when loaded.

(4.5) NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING COMBINATIONS OF VEHICLES SHALL NOT EXCEED SEVENTY-FIVE FEET IN TOTAL OVERALL LENGTH:

(a) SADDLEMOUNT COMBINATIONS CONSISTING OF NO MORE THAN FOUR UNITS;

(b) LADEN TRUCK TRACTOR-SEMITRAILER COMBINATIONS; AND

(c) SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT USED IN COMBINATION FOR TRANSPORTING AUTOMOBILES OR BOATS. THE OVERALL LENGTH OF SUCH COMBINATION SHALL BE EXCLUSIVE OF:

(I) SAFETY DEVICES; HOWEVER, SUCH SAFETY DEVICES SHALL NOT BE DESIGNED OR USED FOR CARRYING CARGO;

(II) AUTOMOBILES OR BOATS BEING TRANSPORTED;

(III) ANY EXTENSION DEVICE THAT MAY BE USED FOR LOADING BEYOND THE EXTREME FRONT OR REAR ENDS OF A VEHICLE OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES; EXCEPT THAT THE PROJECTION OF A LOAD, INCLUDING ANY EXTENSION DEVICES LOADED TO THE FRONT OF THE VEHICLE, SHALL NOT EXTEND MORE THAN FOUR FEET BEYOND THE EXTREME FRONT OF THE GRILL OF SUCH VEHICLE AND NO LOAD OR EXTENSION DEVICE MAY EXTEND MORE THAN SIX FEET TO THE EXTREME REAR OF THE VEHICLE.

(5) The load upon any vehicle operated alone or the load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles shall not extend beyond the front wheels of such vehicles or vehicle or the front most point of the grill of such vehicle; but a load may project not more than four feet beyond the front most point of the grill assembly of the

vehicle engine compartment of such a vehicle at a point above the cab of the driver's compartment so long as that part of any load projecting ahead of the rear of the cab or driver's compartment shall be so loaded as not to obscure the vision of the driver to the front or to either side. ~~except for the provisions of subsection (4) of this section.~~

(6) The length limitations of vehicles and combinations of vehicles provided for in this section as they apply to vehicles being operated and utilized for the transportation of steel, fabricated beams, trusses, utility poles, AND pipes ~~and automobiles~~ shall be determined without regard to the projection of said commodities beyond the extreme front or rear of the vehicle or combination of vehicles; except that the projection of a load to the front shall be governed by the provisions of subsection (5) of this section, and no load shall project to the rear more than ten feet.

**SECTION 5.** 42-4-505 (2) (a), (2) (b), and (2) (c), Colorado Revised Statutes, 1993 Repl. Vol., as amended, are amended to read:

**42-4-505. Longer vehicle combinations.** (2) The permits shall allow operation, over designated highways, of the following vehicle combinations of not more than three cargo units and neither fewer than six axles nor more than nine axles:

(a) ~~A truck tractor,~~ AN UNLADEN TRUCK TRACTOR, a semitrailer, and two trailers. A semitrailer used with a converter dolly shall be considered a trailer. Semitrailers and trailers shall be of approximately equal lengths not to exceed twenty-eight feet six inches in length.

(b) ~~A truck tractor,~~ AN UNLADEN TRUCK TRACTOR, A semitrailer, and A single trailer. A semitrailer used with a converter dolly shall be considered a trailer. Semitrailers and trailers shall be of approximately equal lengths not to exceed forty-eight feet in length.

(c) ~~A truck tractor,~~ AN UNLADEN TRUCK TRACTOR, A semitrailer, and A single trailer, one trailer of which is not more than forty-eight feet long, the other trailer of which is not more than twenty-eight feet six inches long. A semitrailer used with a converter dolly shall be considered a trailer. The shorter trailer shall be operated as the rear trailer.

**SECTION 6. Effective date.** This act shall take effect July 1, 1995.

**SECTION 7. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: May 16, 1995