

**CHAPTER 9**  
**LENGTH, WEIGHT AND REMANUFACTURE OF VEHICLES**  
*S.F. 207*

**AN ACT** relating to vehicles by defining a remanufactured vehicle and providing for the overall length and width of vehicles and combinations of vehicles which may be operated on the highways of this state.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

Section 1. Section 307.10, subsection 5, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

5. Adopt rules in accordance with the provisions of chapter 17A as it may deem ~~deems~~ necessary to transact its business and for the administration and exercise of its powers and duties. The transportation commission shall also adopt rules, which rules shall be exempt from the provisions of chapter 17A, governing the length of vehicles and combinations of vehicles which are subject to the limitations imposed under section 321.457. The commission may adopt such rules which permit vehicles and combinations of vehicles in excess of the length limitations imposed under section 321.457, but not exceeding sixty-five feet in length, which may be moved on the highways of this state. Any such proposed rules shall be submitted to the general assembly within five days following the convening of a regular session of the general assembly. The general assembly may approve or disapprove the rules submitted by the commission not later than sixty days from the date such rules are submitted and, if approved or no action is taken by the general assembly on the proposed rules, such rules shall become effective May 1 and thereafter all laws in conflict therewith shall be of no further force and effect.

Sec. 2. Chapter 307, Code 1983, is amended by adding the following new section:

**NEW SECTION. 307.30 FEDERAL TAX COMPLIANCE.** The department shall adopt rules under chapter 17A to provide for certification of federal heavy vehicle use tax collections required by the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982.

Sec. 3. Section 321.1, Code 1983, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

**NEW SUBSECTION. 82.** "Remanufactured vehicle" means every vehicle of a type required to be registered and having a gross vehicle weight rating of at least thirty thousand pounds that has been disassembled, resulting in the total separation of the major integral parts and which has been reassembled with those parts being replaced with new or rebuilt parts. In every instance, a new diesel engine and all new tires shall be installed and shall carry manufacturers' warranties.

Every vehicle shall include, but not be limited to, new or rebuilt component parts consisting of steering gear, clutch, transmission, differential, engine radiator, engine fan hub, engine starter, alternator, air compressor and cab. For purposes of this subsection, "rebuilt" means the replacement of any element of a component part which appears to limit the serviceability of the part. A minimum of twenty thousand dollars shall be expended on each vehicle and the expense must be verifiable by invoices, work orders, or other documentation as required by the department.

The department may establish equipment requirements and a vehicle inspection procedure for remanufactured vehicles. The department may establish a fee for the inspection of remanufactured vehicles not to exceed one hundred dollars for each vehicle inspected.

Sec. 4. Section 321.23, subsection 1, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

1. ~~In the event~~ If the vehicle to be registered is a specially constructed, reconstructed, remanufactured or foreign vehicle, such fact shall be stated in the application. A fee of two dollars shall be paid by the person making ~~sueh~~ the application upon issuance of a certificate of title by the county treasurer. With reference to every specially constructed or reconstructed motor vehicle subject to registration the application shall be accompanied by a statement from the department authorizing ~~sueh~~ the motor vehicle to be titled and registered in this state. The department shall cause a physical inspection to be made of all specially constructed or reconstructed motor vehicles, upon application ~~therefor~~ for a certificate of title by the owner ~~thereof~~, to determine whether ~~sueh~~ the motor vehicle is in a safe operating condition and that the integral component parts ~~thereof~~ are properly identified and that the rightful ownership is established before issuing ~~sueh~~ the owner the authority to have the motor vehicle registered and titled as herein ~~provided~~. With reference to every foreign vehicle which has been registered ~~heretofore~~ outside of this state the owner shall surrender to the treasurer all registration plates, registration cards, and certificates of title, or, if vehicle to be registered is from a nontitle state, ~~sueh~~ the evidence of foreign registration and ownership as may be prescribed by the department except as provided in subsection 2 ~~hereof~~.

Sec. 5. Section 321.454, Code 1983, is amended to read as follows:

321.454 WIDTH OF VEHICLES.

1. The total outside width of any vehicle or the load thereon shall not exceed eight feet except that a bus having a total outside width not exceeding eight feet six inches, exclusive of safety equipment, ~~shall be is~~ exempt from the permit requirements of chapter 321E and may be operated on the public highways of the state. However, if hay, straw or stover moved on any implement of husbandry and the total width of load of the implement of husbandry exceeds eight feet in width, the implement of husbandry ~~shall is~~ not be subject to the permit requirements of chapter 321E. If hay, straw or stover is moved on any other vehicle subject to registration, ~~sueh~~ the moves ~~shall be~~ are subject to the permit requirements for transporting loads exceeding eight feet in width as required under chapter 321E. The vehicle width limitations imposed by this subsection only apply to the public highways of the state not subject to the width limitations imposed under subsection 2.

2. The total outside width of any vehicle and load shall not exceed eight feet six inches, exclusive of safety equipment determined necessary for safe and efficient operation by the secretary of the United States department of transportation, on highways designated by the transportation commission. The department shall adopt rules to designate the highways, in compliance with the highways designated by the secretary of the United States department of transportation as a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways and any other qualifying highways. The rules adopted under this subsection are exempt from chapter 17A.

Sec. 6. Section 321.457, Code 1983, is amended by striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

321.457 MAXIMUM LENGTH.

1. A combination of four vehicles is not allowed on the highways of this state.\*
2. The maximum length of any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles operated on the highways of this state, unless subject to the maximum length provisions of subsection 3, are as follows:

\*See also ch 116, §2(1) herein.

a. A single truck, unladen or with load, shall not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of forty feet.

b. A single bus, unladen or with load, shall not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of forty feet.

c. Except for combinations of vehicles, provisions for which are otherwise made in this chapter, no combination of a truck tractor and a semitrailer coupled together unladen or with load, shall have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of sixty feet.

d. However, a mobile home not in excess of forty-eight feet in length may be drawn by any motor vehicle, except a motor truck, provided that the mobile home and its towing unit are not in excess of an overall length of sixty feet. For the purposes of this subsection, a light delivery truck, panel delivery truck or "pickup" is not a motor truck. A portable livestock loading chute not in excess of a length of thirteen feet including its hitch or tongue may be drawn by any vehicle or combination of vehicles, provided that the vehicle or combination of vehicles drawing the loading chute is not in excess of the legal length provided for such vehicles or combinations.

e. Combinations of vehicles coupled together which are used exclusively for the transportation of passenger vehicles, light delivery trucks, panel delivery trucks, pickup trucks, recreational vehicle chassis, and boats shall not exceed sixty-five feet in overall length. However, the load carried on a truck-semitrailer combination may extend up to two feet beyond the front bumper and up to three feet beyond the rear bumper.

f. A combination of three vehicles coupled together one of which is a motor vehicle, unladen or with load, shall not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of sixty feet.

g. A motor vehicle or combination of vehicles may be operated upon the highways of this state, irrespective of the length and weight limitations imposed by the laws of this state, if the motor vehicle or combination of vehicles is operated within the corporate limits of a city abutting a border of this state and such operations have been approved by ordinance of the city council and if the length and weight of the motor vehicle or combination of vehicles is in conformity with the laws relating to length and weight of the abutting state on July 1, 1974. If a city council has authorized such operation upon highways within the corporate limits, then the limit of travel for such motor vehicles or combination of vehicles within the state is extended to the commercial zones as described by federal regulations concerning interstate commerce, 49 code of federal regulations, paragraphs 1048.10, 1048.38, and 1048.101 as they exist on July 1, 1974.

h. A semitrailer shall not have a distance between the kingpin and the center of its rearmost axle in excess of forty feet, except a semitrailer used principally for hauling livestock, a semitrailer used exclusively for hauling self-propelled industrial and construction equipment, or a semitrailer used exclusively for the purposes described in paragraph e of this subsection. A semitrailer which is a 1980 or older model having a distance between the kingpin and center of the rearmost axle of more than forty feet may be operated on the highways of this state if a special overlength permit is obtained from the department for the vehicle. The special overlength permit shall be valid until the semitrailer is inoperable.

3. The maximum length of any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles operated on the highways of this state which are designated by the secretary of the United States department of transportation and the transportation commission as a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways and the federal-aid primary system shall be as follows:

a. A trailer or semitrailer, laden or unladen, shall not have an overall length in excess of fifty-three feet when operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination.

b. A trailer or semitrailer, laden or unladen, shall not have an overall length in excess of twenty-eight feet six inches when operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination.

c. Power units designed to carry cargo, when used in combination with a trailer or semitrailer shall not exceed sixty-five feet in overall length for the combination.

d. The department shall adopt rules to designate those highways designated by the secretary of the United States department of transportation as a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways and the federal-aid primary system. The rules adopted by the department under this paragraph are exempt from chapter 17A.

4. Fire fighting apparatus and vehicles operated during daylight hours when transporting poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural nature which cannot be readily disassembled when required for emergency repair of public service facilities or properties are not subject to the limitations on overall length of vehicles and combinations of vehicles imposed under this section. However, for operation during nighttime hours, these vehicles and the load being transported shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps at the extreme ends of the projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load. A member of the state highway safety patrol shall also be notified prior to the operation of the vehicle.

5. The department may adopt rules to designate highways, in addition to those designated under subsection 3, to which the overall length limitations imposed under subsection 3 for vehicles and combinations of vehicles shall be applicable. However, rules adopted under this subsection are subject to chapter 17A.

Sec. 7. Section 6 of this Act takes effect April 1, 1983.

Sec. 8. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect from and after its publication in the Muscatine Journal, a newspaper published in Muscatine, Iowa, and in The Messenger, a newspaper published in Fort Dodge, Iowa.

Approved March 29, 1983

Pursuant to the authority vested in the undersigned Secretary of State of Iowa in Chapter 3.9, Code of Iowa, 1983, because of inherent and imperative need, I hereby designate this bill to be published in The Des Moines Register, a newspaper published in Des Moines, Iowa and the West Des Moines Express, a newspaper published in West Des Moines, Iowa.

MARY JANE ODELL, *Secretary of State*

I hereby certify that the foregoing Act, Senate File 207 was published in The Des Moines Register, Des Moines, Iowa on March 31, 1983 and in the West Des Moines Express, West Des Moines, Iowa on March 31, 1983.

MARY JANE ODELL, *Secretary of State*