

INTERSTATE TRUCK REGISTRATION RECIPROCITY SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEES ON TRANSPORTATION

Final Report

The Interstate Truck Registration Reciprocity Subcommittee was created by the Standing Committees on Transportation with the approval of the Legislative Council during the 1969 interim. The following members of the Committees on Transportation were appointed to the Subcommittee:

Representative William E. Darrington, Chairman
Senator Eugene M. Hill
Senator Leslie C. Klink
Representative Vernon N. Bennett
Representative Keith H. Dunton
Representative Harold O. Fischer

The Subcommittee's assignment was to study problems related to interstate truck registration reciprocity and House File 1, relating to negotiation and execution of reciprocal, proration, and other agreements or declarations for fleet owners of commercial vehicles engaged in interstate commerce.

The Subcommittee held six meetings which were attended by officials and employees of the state and representatives of the trucking industry.

The Subcommittee was concerned with the pending action of the Iowa Reciprocity Board with regard to Iowa's membership in the Uniform Vehicle Registration Proration and Reciprocity Agreement, commonly referred to as the Uniform Compact. Although the Board was prorating interstate truck registration fees on the basis of compact miles, the Uniform Compact provides for prorating registration fees based on total fleet miles. In 1968, the Iowa Reciprocity Board submitted an appendix to the Uniform Compact which allowed Iowa to prorate truck registration fees for the 1969 registration year on the basis of compact miles. This appendix was approved by the member states. In August 1969, the Board resubmitted the appendix requesting an extension for the 1970 registration year. The appendix was rejected. This rejection placed Iowa in the position of either prorating registration fees on the basis of total fleet miles as provided by the Uniform Compact and contrary to the provisions of Chapter 326 of the Code or withdrawal from the Compact.

On October 20, 1969, the Attorney General ruled on the issue of whether the state could remain a member of the Uniform Compact and prorate truck registration fees on the basis of total fleet miles, in view of the fact that section 326.2 of the Code provides for the proration of truck registration fees on the basis of compact miles. The opinion of the Attorney General stated:

"Accordingly, it is our opinion that while section 326.2 gives the Board authority to 'make' proration agreements only on a compact mile basis, that section refers only to the authority of the Board 'to make' future agreements; it does not refer to the authority of the Board to continue agreements made in the past. Section 326.2 does not require the Board to take action to withdraw Iowa from the compact."

The Iowa Reciprocity Board voted two to one to prorate truck registration fees on the basis of total fleet miles with an adjustment up to 100% for Iowa-based carriers by computing miles traveled in reciprocity states as Iowa miles.

Upon concluding its study of House File 1 and the problems of the Reciprocity Board, the Subcommittee recommends the passage of House File 1 as originally filed with the addition of a clause making the bill retroactive and a publication clause and further recommends immediate action by the second regular session of the Sixty-third General Assembly.