

*Reprinted*

FEB 21 1991

HOUSE FILE 309

BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House File 309

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 89)

Passed House, Date 5/18/91 (of 709) Passed Senate, Date 4/9/91 (P.1147)  
 Vote: Ayes 79 Nays 14 Vote: Ayes 46 Nays 2  
 Approved April 16, 1991

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to maximum lengths of saddle mounted or full
- 2 mounted power unit combination vehicles and the length of draw
- 3 bar or other connections on certain towing vehicles.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

HOUSE FILE 309

H-3188

- 1 Amend House File 309 as follows:
- 2 1. Page 1, by striking lines 29 through 31 and
- 3 inserting the following: "a sign indicating that the
- 4 vehicle is a towed vehicle."

By BLACK of Jasper

H-3188 FILED MARCH 13, 1991

*Adopted 3/14 (of 709)*

HF 309

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1 Section 1. Section 321.457, subsection 1, Code 1991, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. A combination of four vehicles is not allowed on the  
4 highways of this state, except for power units saddle mounted  
5 on other power units which shall be restricted to a maximum  
6 overall length of sixty-five feet unless subject to the  
7 maximum length provisions of subsection 3.

8 Sec. 2. Section 321.457, subsection 3, Code 1991, is  
9 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

10 NEW PARAGRAPH. f. Power units saddle mounted or full  
11 mounted on other power units shall not exceed seventy-five  
12 feet in overall length.

13 Sec. 3. Section 321.461, Code 1991, is amended by adding  
14 the following new unnumbered paragraph:

15 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. If the towing vehicle is a motor  
16 truck and the towed vehicle is a single trailer with a single  
17 point of articulation at the hitch connection, the draw bar or  
18 other connection shall not exceed twenty-one feet. The length  
19 of the draw bar or other connection shall be measured from the  
20 centerline of the hitch assembly on the towing vehicle to the  
21 front of the body of the towed vehicle. A vehicle which has a  
22 drawbar or other connection which measures between fifteen and  
23 twenty-one feet in length shall have at least one yellow  
24 reflector visible on each vertical face of the drawbar or  
25 other connection, located near the midpoint between the towing  
26 and the towed vehicle. A vehicle which has a drawbar or other  
27 connection which measures between fifteen and twenty-one feet  
28 in length shall have affixed to the rear of the towed vehicle  
29 a sign indicating that the vehicle is a towed vehicle. The  
30 towed vehicle sign shall conform to specifications in the  
31 manual of traffic-control devices adopted by the department.

32 EXPLANATION

33 This bill increases the allowable length of saddle mounted  
34 or full mounted power units to 75 feet when operated on the  
35 system of highways that have been designated by the

1 transportation commission for use by larger trucks. The  
2 allowable length on other roads would remain at 65 feet. This  
3 vehicle combination consists of a truck or truck tractor  
4 towing other trucks or truck tractors each connected by a  
5 saddle to the frame or fifth wheel of the vehicle in front of  
6 it. A full mounted vehicle is a smaller vehicle mounted  
7 completely on the first or last vehicle in a saddle mount  
8 combination. This is a common method of delivering truck  
9 tractors or truck chassis.

10 In addition, this bill prohibits a motor truck which is  
11 towing a single trailer with a single point of articulation at  
12 the hitch connection from having a draw bar or other  
13 connection which exceeds 21 feet in length. If the draw bar  
14 or connection is between 15 and 21 feet in length, at least  
15 one yellow reflector and a towed vehicle sign must be dis-  
16 played.

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HOUSE FILE 309  
BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 89)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 18, 1991)

Passed House, Date 3/18/91 (p. 709) Passed Senate, Date 4/9/91 (p. 1147)  
Vote: Ayes 79 Nays 14 Vote: Ayes 46 Nays 2  
Approved April 16, 1991 (p. 1300)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to maximum lengths of saddle mounted or full  
2 mounted power unit combination vehicles and the length of draw  
3 bar or other connections on certain towing vehicles.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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House Amendments \_\_\_\_\_

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20 centerline of the hitch assembly on the towing vehicle to the  
21 front of the body of the towed vehicle. A vehicle which has a  
22 drawbar or other connection which measures between fifteen and  
23 twenty-one feet in length shall have at least one yellow  
24 reflector visible on each vertical face of the drawbar or  
25 other connection, located near the midpoint between the towing  
26 and the towed vehicle. A vehicle which has a drawbar or other  
27 connection which measures between fifteen and twenty-one feet  
28 in length shall have affixed to the rear of the towed vehicle  
29 a sign indicating that the vehicle is a towed vehicle.

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HSB 89

TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE FILE 309  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON KOENIGS)

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to maximum lengths of saddle mounted or full  
2 mounted power unit combination vehicles.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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#### EXPLANATION

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15 or full mounted power units to 75 feet when operated on the  
16 system of highways that have been designated by the  
17 transportation commission for use by larger trucks. The  
18 allowable length on other roads would remain at 65 feet. This  
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25 tractors or truck chassis.

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HOUSE FILE 309

AN ACT

RELATING TO MAXIMUM LENGTHS OF SADDLE MOUNTED OR FULL MOUNTED POWER UNIT COMBINATION VEHICLES AND THE LENGTH OF DRAW BAR OR OTHER CONNECTIONS ON CERTAIN TOWING VEHICLES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 321.457, subsection 1, Code 1991, is amended to read as follows:

1. A combination of four vehicles is not allowed on the highways of this state, except for power units saddle mounted on other power units which shall be restricted to a maximum overall length of sixty-five feet unless subject to the maximum length provisions of subsection 3.

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NEW PARAGRAPH. f. Power units saddle mounted or full mounted on other power units shall not exceed seventy-five feet in overall length.

Sec. 3. Section 321.461, Code 1991, is amended by adding the following new unnumbered paragraph:

NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. If the towing vehicle is a motor truck and the towed vehicle is a single trailer with a single point of articulation at the hitch connection, the draw bar or other connection shall not exceed twenty-one feet. The length of the draw bar or other connection shall be measured from the centerline of the hitch assembly on the towing vehicle to the front of the body of the towed vehicle. A vehicle which has a drawbar or other connection which measures between fifteen and twenty-one feet in length shall have at least one yellow reflector visible on each vertical face of the drawbar or other connection, located near the midpoint between the towing

and the towed vehicle. A vehicle which has a drawbar or other connection which measures between fifteen and twenty-one feet in length shall have affixed to the rear of the towed vehicle a sign indicating that the vehicle is a towed vehicle.

ROBERT C. ARNOULD  
Speaker of the House

JOE J. WELSH  
President of the Senate

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the House and is known as House File 309, Seventy-fourth General Assembly.

JOSEPH O'HERN  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved *[Signature]*, 1991

TERRY E. BRANSTAD  
Governor

HF 309