

**House File 2198 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2198

BY SANDS and WINDSCHITL

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the registration and regulation of  
2 motorsports recreational vehicles, recreational vehicle  
3 operators, and recreational vehicle cargo, and including  
4 fees.

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

1 Section 1. Section 321.1, subsection 8, Code 2014, is  
2 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

3 NEW PARAGRAPH. *i.* A person operating a motorsports  
4 recreational vehicle is not a chauffeur.

5 Sec. 2. Section 321.1, subsection 36C, Code 2014, is amended  
6 by adding the following new paragraph:

7 NEW PARAGRAPH. *e.* "*Motorsports recreational vehicle*" means a  
8 modified motor vehicle consisting of a conversion unit mounted  
9 on a truck tractor chassis such that the motor vehicle can  
10 be used as a conveyance on the highway and as a temporary or  
11 recreational dwelling. The motor vehicle must have at least  
12 four of the permanently installed systems listed in paragraph  
13 "*d*", two of which shall be systems specified in paragraph "*d*",  
14 subparagraph (1), (4), or (5).

15 Sec. 3. Section 321.109, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code  
16 2014, is amended to read as follows:

17 *a.* The annual fee for all motor vehicles including vehicles  
18 designated by manufacturers as station wagons, 1993 and  
19 subsequent model year multipurpose vehicles, and 2010 and  
20 subsequent model year motor trucks with an unladen weight of  
21 ten thousand pounds or less, except motor trucks registered  
22 under section 321.122, business-trade trucks, special trucks,  
23 motor homes, motorsports recreational vehicles, ambulances,  
24 hearses, motorcycles, motorized bicycles, and 1992 and older  
25 model year multipurpose vehicles, shall be equal to one  
26 percent of the value as fixed by the department plus forty  
27 cents for each one hundred pounds or fraction thereof of  
28 weight of vehicle, as fixed by the department. The weight  
29 of a motor vehicle, fixed by the department for registration  
30 purposes, shall include the weight of a battery, heater,  
31 bumpers, spare tire, and wheel. Provided, however, that for  
32 any new vehicle purchased in this state by a nonresident  
33 for removal to the nonresident's state of residence the  
34 purchaser may make application to the county treasurer in  
35 the county of purchase for a transit plate for which a fee

1 of ten dollars shall be paid. And provided, however, that  
2 for any used vehicle held by a registered dealer and not  
3 currently registered in this state, or for any vehicle held  
4 by an individual and currently registered in this state,  
5 when purchased in this state by a nonresident for removal to  
6 the nonresident's state of residence, the purchaser may make  
7 application to the county treasurer in the county of purchase  
8 for a transit plate for which a fee of three dollars shall  
9 be paid. The county treasurer shall issue a nontransferable  
10 certificate of registration for which no refund shall be  
11 allowed; and the transit plates shall be void thirty days  
12 after issuance. Such purchaser may apply for a certificate  
13 of title by surrendering the manufacturer's or importer's  
14 certificate or certificate of title, duly assigned as provided  
15 in this chapter. In this event, the treasurer in the county  
16 of purchase shall, when satisfied with the genuineness and  
17 regularity of the application, and upon payment of a fee of  
18 twenty dollars, issue a certificate of title in the name and  
19 address of the nonresident purchaser delivering the title  
20 to the owner. If there is a security interest noted on the  
21 title, the county treasurer shall mail to the secured party an  
22 acknowledgment of the notation of the security interest. The  
23 county treasurer shall not release a security interest that  
24 has been noted on a title issued to a nonresident purchaser  
25 as provided in this paragraph. The application requirements  
26 of section 321.20 apply to a title issued as provided in this  
27 subsection, except that a natural person who applies for a  
28 certificate of title shall provide either the person's social  
29 security number, passport number, or driver's license number,  
30 whether the license was issued by this state, another state, or  
31 another country. The provisions of this subsection relating to  
32 multipurpose vehicles are effective for all 1993 and subsequent  
33 model years. The annual registration fee for multipurpose  
34 vehicles that are 1992 model years and older shall be in  
35 accordance with section 321.124.

1     Sec. 4. Section 321.124, Code 2014, is amended by adding the  
2 following new subsection:

3     NEW SUBSECTION. 4. The annual registration fee for a  
4 motorsports recreational vehicle is eight hundred dollars. For  
5 purposes of determining that portion of the annual registration  
6 fee which is based upon the value of the motorsports  
7 recreational vehicle, sixty percent of the annual fee is  
8 attributable to the value of the vehicle.

9     Sec. 5. Section 321.176A, Code 2014, is amended by adding  
10 the following new subsection:

11     NEW SUBSECTION. 8. A person operating a motorsports  
12 recreational vehicle for the purpose of participating  
13 in motorsports competitions primarily for relaxation or  
14 entertainment and not for a commercial purpose. For purposes  
15 of this subsection, "*commercial purpose*" does not include  
16 a competition that involves prize money or commercial  
17 sponsorship.

18     Sec. 6. Section 321.284A, subsection 2, Code 2014, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20     2. This section does not apply to a passenger being  
21 transported in a motor vehicle designed, maintained, or used  
22 primarily for the transportation of persons for compensation,  
23 or a passenger being transported in the living quarters of a  
24 motor home, motorsports recreational vehicle, manufactured or  
25 mobile home, travel trailer, or fifth-wheel travel trailer.

26     Sec. 7. Section 321.310, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2014, are  
27 amended to read as follows:

28     1. A motor vehicle shall not tow a four-wheeled trailer with  
29 a steering axle, or more than one trailer or semitrailer, or  
30 both in combination. However, this section does not apply to  
31 a motor home, motorsports recreational vehicle, multipurpose  
32 vehicle, motor truck, truck tractor or road tractor nor to  
33 a farm tractor towing a four-wheeled trailer, nor to a farm  
34 tractor or motor vehicle towing implements of husbandry, nor to  
35 a wagon box trailer used by a farmer in transporting produce,

1 farm products, or supplies hauled to and from market.

2 2. Any four-wheeled trailer towed by a truck tractor or road  
3 tractor shall be registered under the semitrailer provisions  
4 of section 321.123; provided, ~~however,~~ that the provisions  
5 of this ~~section~~ subsection shall not ~~be applicable~~ apply to  
6 motor vehicles drawing wagon box trailers used by a farmer  
7 in transporting produce, farm products, or supplies hauled  
8 to and from market, or to a four-wheeled trailer towed by a  
9 motorsports recreational vehicle.

10 Sec. 8. Section 321.446, subsection 3, paragraph b, Code  
11 2014, is amended to read as follows:

12 b. The transportation of children in 1965 model year or  
13 older vehicles, authorized emergency vehicles, buses, or motor  
14 homes, or motorsports recreational vehicles except when a child  
15 is transported in a motor home's or motorsports recreational  
16 vehicle's passenger seat situated directly to the driver's  
17 right.

18 Sec. 9. Section 321.450, Code 2014, is amended by adding the  
19 following new subsection:

20 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. Notwithstanding other provisions of  
21 this section, rules adopted under this section applicable to  
22 the transportation of any fuel used in race car engines shall  
23 not apply to the transportation of such fuel if the fuel is  
24 contained in the fuel cells of a race car being transported in  
25 a trailer and the fuel cells are certified by SFI foundation,  
26 inc.

27 Sec. 10. Section 321.454, Code 2014, is amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 **321.454 Width of vehicles.**

30 The total outside width of a vehicle or the load on  
31 the vehicle shall not exceed eight feet six inches. This  
32 limitation on the total outside width of a vehicle or the load  
33 on the vehicle does not include safety equipment on a vehicle  
34 or incidental appurtenances or retracted awnings on motor  
35 homes, motorsports recreational vehicles, travel trailers, or

1 fifth-wheel travel trailers if the incidental appurtenance or  
2 retracted awning is less than six inches in width. However,  
3 if hay, straw, or stover is moved on an implement of husbandry  
4 and the total width of load of the implement of husbandry  
5 exceeds eight feet six inches, the implement of husbandry is  
6 not subject to the permit requirements of chapter 321E. If  
7 hay, straw, or stover is moved on any other vehicle subject to  
8 registration, the moves are subject to the permit requirements  
9 for transporting loads exceeding eight feet six inches in width  
10 as required under chapter 321E.

11 Sec. 11. Section 321.457, subsection 2, paragraph j, Code  
12 2014, is amended to read as follows:

13 *j.* A motor home or motorsports recreational vehicle shall  
14 not have an overall length, excluding front and rear bumpers  
15 and safety equipment, in excess of forty-five feet.

16 Sec. 12. Section 321.457, subsection 2, Code 2014, is  
17 amended by adding the following new paragraph:

18 NEW PARAGRAPH. *Ok.* A combination of two vehicles coupled  
19 together, one of which is a motorsports recreational vehicle,  
20 shall not have an overall length in excess of eighty-five feet.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill establishes a new motorsports recreational vehicle  
25 classification for purposes of motor vehicle regulation and  
26 driver licensing. The bill defines "motorsports recreational  
27 vehicle" as a modified motor vehicle consisting of a conversion  
28 unit mounted on a truck tractor chassis, containing systems  
29 similar to the systems required in a motor home, so that the  
30 motor vehicle can be used as a conveyance on the highway and as  
31 a temporary or recreational dwelling. The annual registration  
32 fee for a motorsports recreational vehicle is \$800.

33 The bill specifies that a person operating a motorsports  
34 recreational vehicle is not a chauffeur. The bill also  
35 provides an exemption from commercial driver licensing

1 requirements for a person operating a motorsports recreational  
2 vehicle for the purpose of participating in motorsports  
3 competitions primarily for relaxation or entertainment and  
4 not for a commercial purpose. In this context, "commercial  
5 purpose" does not include a competition that involves prize  
6 money or commercial sponsorship.

7 Current motor vehicle provisions applicable to motor homes  
8 are amended to apply to motorsports recreational vehicles as  
9 well. These provisions include an exception to open-container  
10 restrictions for a passenger being transported in the living  
11 quarters of a motorsports recreational vehicle; child restraint  
12 requirements for a child seated directly to the driver's  
13 right; the exclusion of incidental appurtenances or retracted  
14 awnings from vehicle width limitations; and an exemption from  
15 restrictions on towing a four-wheeled trailer with a steering  
16 axle or more than one trailer or semitrailer. The bill states  
17 that a four-wheeled trailer towed by a motorsports recreational  
18 vehicle is not required to be registered as a semitrailer.

19 The bill limits the length of a motorsports recreational  
20 vehicle, excluding front and rear bumpers and safety equipment,  
21 to not more than 45 feet. The maximum length for a combination  
22 of two vehicles coupled together, one of which is a motorsports  
23 recreational vehicle, is 85 feet.

24 Under current law, the department of transportation has  
25 adopted rules, in compliance with federal regulations,  
26 relating to the transportation of hazardous materials. The  
27 bill provides that rules applicable to the transportation  
28 of any fuel used in race car engines shall not apply to the  
29 transportation of fuel contained in the fuel cells of a race  
30 car being transported in a trailer if the fuel cells are  
31 certified by SFI foundation, inc.