

Senate File 643 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 643
BY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 568)
(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1187)

(COMPANION TO HF 1025 BY
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to certain state highways not designated as
2 part of the interstate road system, including the operation
3 of implements of husbandry on such highways, and including
4 applicability provisions.

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

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **314.16A Interstate road designation**
2 **— prohibition.**

3 The department of transportation and the state transportation
4 commission shall not pursue an interstate road designation for
5 the segment of highway that is a controlled-access facility,
6 as defined in section 306A.2, designated as state highway
7 5 and United States highway 65, including where the highway
8 designations overlap, between interstate 35 and interstate 80,
9 unless the United States government provides an exemption to
10 federal regulations regarding vehicle weight and size on that
11 segment. The federal exemption must authorize any vehicle that
12 is not prohibited from being operated on the segment prior to
13 the date of designation as an interstate road to continue to be
14 operated on the segment after designation as an interstate road.

15 Sec. 2. Section 321.285, subsection 5, paragraph e, Code
16 2025, is amended to read as follows:

17 e. (1) Any kind of A vehicle, device, implement, or
18 conveyance incapable of attaining and maintaining a speed of
19 forty miles per hour shall be prohibited from using the
20 interstate road system.

21 (2) This paragraph does not apply to an implement of
22 husbandry that a person is authorized to operate on the segment
23 of United States highway 65, and state highway 5, including
24 where the highway designations overlap, between the highway's
25 intersection with United States highway 6 and the highway's
26 intersection with United States highway 69, or farther west
27 if authorized by the department, prior to the date that
28 segment of highway is designated a part of the interstate
29 road system, if the segment of highway is designated a part
30 of the interstate road system. The department may authorize
31 an implement of husbandry to be operated on a segment of the
32 highway described above farther west beyond the intersection
33 with United States highway 69. This subparagraph is repealed
34 on the date an alternative route for implements of husbandry is
35 developed, deemed suitable by the department of transportation

1 in consultation with the department of agriculture and land
2 stewardship, and opened for traffic to bypass the segment of
3 the interstate road system described in this subparagraph. The
4 department of transportation shall notify the Iowa Code editor on
5 that date.

6 Sec. 3. ALTERNATIVE HIGHWAY STUDY. The department of
7 transportation shall collaborate with the Des Moines area
8 metropolitan planning organization as the organization conducts
9 an alternative highway study to develop and implement an
10 accessible highway route suitable for implements of husbandry
11 to be operated alongside, but not directly on, the segment of
12 United States highway 65, and state highway 5, including where
13 the highway designations overlap, between United States highway 6
14 and United States highway 69.

15 Sec. 4. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to the segment of
16 the highway known as United States highway 65, and state highway
17 5, including where the highway designations overlap, described
18 in this Act on the effective date of this Act, and shall apply
19 to that segment of the highway thereafter regardless of whether
20 the highway's designation as United States highway 65, or state
21 highway 5, including where the highway designations overlap,
22 is subsequently changed by the state transportation commission,
23 department of transportation, or the government of the United
24 States.

25 EXPLANATION

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

28 Under current law, any kind of vehicle, implement, or
29 conveyance incapable of attaining and maintaining a speed of 40
30 miles per hour (MPH) is prohibited from using the interstate road
31 system.

32 This bill provides a conditional exception to that
33 prohibition. If an implement of husbandry may be operated
34 on the segment of the highway known as U.S. highway 65, and
35 state highway 5, including where the highway designations overlap

1 (segment), between the highway's intersection with U.S. highway 6
2 and the highway's intersection with U.S. highway 69, prior to the
3 date the segment becomes part of the interstate road system, then
4 the implement of husbandry may continue to be operated on that
5 segment until an alternative route for implements of husbandry
6 is made available. The department of transportation (DOT) may
7 authorize an implement of husbandry to be operated on the segment
8 farther west beyond the intersection with U.S. highway 69.

9 Under current law, an "implement of husbandry" means a
10 vehicle or special mobile equipment manufactured, designed,
11 or reconstructed for agricultural purposes and, except for
12 incidental uses, is exclusively used in the conduct of
13 agricultural operations. To be considered an implement of
14 husbandry, a self-propelled qualifying vehicle must be operated
15 at speeds of 35 MPH or less.

16 The bill prohibits the DOT and the state transportation
17 commission from pursuing an interstate road designation for
18 the segment extending between the segment's intersections with
19 interstate 35 and interstate 80 unless the U.S. government
20 provides an exemption from federal regulations regarding vehicle
21 weight and size on that segment, as described in the bill.

22 The bill requires the DOT to collaborate with the Des Moines
23 area metropolitan planning organization as the organization
24 conducts an alternative highway study to develop and implement an
25 accessible alternative highway route suitable for implements of
26 husbandry.

27 The bill applies to the segment on the effective date of the
28 bill, and will continue to apply to the segment regardless of
29 whether the highway's designation is subsequently changed.