

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 132

Approved by the Governor February 20, 1987

Introduced by Warner, 25

AN ACT relating to the rules of the road; to amend section 39-6,180, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1986; to provide weight restrictions for certain axles; to define terms; and to repeal the original section.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. That section 39-6,180, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1986, be amended to read as follows:

39-6,180. (1) The wheels of all vehicles, including trailers, except those operated at twenty miles per hour or less, shall be equipped with pneumatic tires.

(2) No wheel of a vehicle or trailer, referred to in subsection (1) of this section, equipped with pneumatic, solid rubber, or cushion tires shall carry a gross load in excess of ten thousand pounds on any road or highway nor shall any axle carry a gross load in excess of twenty thousand pounds on any road or highway. An axle load shall be defined as the total load transmitted to the road by all wheels whose centers may be included between two parallel transverse vertical planes forty inches apart, extending across the full width of the vehicle.

(3) Every vehicle, whether operated singly or in a combination of vehicles, and every combination of vehicles must comply with subsections (2) and (4) of this section, except as provided in section 39-6,180.02. The limitations imposed by this section are supplemental to all other provisions imposing limitations upon the size and weight of vehicles.

(4) No group of two or more consecutive axles shall carry a load in pounds in excess of the value given in the following table corresponding to the distance in feet between the extreme axles of the group, measured longitudinally to the nearest foot, except that the maximum load carried on any group of two or more axles shall not exceed eighty thousand pounds on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways unless the Director-State Engineer pursuant to section 39-6,180.01 authorizes a greater weight.

Distance in feet between the extremes of any group of two or more consecutive axles	Maximum load in pounds carried on any group of two or more consecutive axles					
	Two Axles	Three Axles	Four Axles	Five Axles	Six Axles	Seven Axles
4	34,000					
5	34,000					
6	34,000					
7	34,000					
8	34,000	42,000				
9	39,000	42,500				
10	40,000	43,500				
11		44,000				
12		45,000	50,000			
13		45,500	50,500			
14		46,500	51,500			
15		47,000	52,000			
16		48,000	52,500	58,000		
17		48,500	53,500	58,500		
18		49,500	54,000	59,000		
19		50,000	54,500	60,000		
20		51,000	55,500	60,500		
21		51,500	56,000	61,000		
22		52,500	56,500	61,500		
23		53,000	57,500	62,500		
24		54,000	58,000	63,000		
25		54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000	
26		55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500	
27		56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000	
28		57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000	
29		57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500	
30		58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000	
31		59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500	
32		60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000	
33			64,000	68,500	74,000	
34			65,500	69,000	74,500	
35			65,500	70,000	75,000	
36			66,000	70,500	75,500	
37			66,500	71,000	76,000	81,500
38			67,500	72,000	77,000	82,000
39			68,000	72,500	77,500	82,500
40			68,500	73,000	78,000	83,500
41			69,500	73,500	78,500	84,000
42			70,000	74,000	79,000	84,500
43			70,500	75,000	80,000	85,000
44			71,500	75,500	80,500	85,500
45			72,000	76,000	81,000	86,000

46	72,500	76,500	81,500	87,000
47	73,500	77,500	82,000	87,500
48	74,000	78,000	83,000	88,000
49	74,500	78,500	83,500	88,500
50	75,500	79,000	84,000	89,000
51	76,000	80,000	84,500	89,500
52	76,500	80,500	85,000	90,500
53	77,500	81,000	86,000	91,000
54	78,000	81,500	86,500	91,500
55	78,500	82,500	87,000	92,000
56	79,500	83,000	87,500	92,500
57	80,000	83,500	88,000	93,000
58		84,000	89,000	94,000
59		85,000	89,500	94,500
60		85,500	90,000	95,000

(5) The distance between axles shall be measured to the nearest foot. When a fraction is exactly one half foot the next larger whole number shall be used, except that any group of three axles shall be restricted to a maximum load of thirty-four thousand pounds unless the distance between the extremes of the first and third axles is at least ninety-six inches in fact.

(6) The limitations of subsections (2), (4), and (5) of this section shall apply as stated to all main, rural, and intercity roads, but shall not be construed as inhibiting heavier axle loads in metropolitan areas, except on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, if such loads are not prohibited by city ordinance.

(7) The weight limitations of wheel and axle loads as defined in subsections (2), (4), and (5) of this section shall be restricted to the extent deemed necessary by the Department of Roads for a reasonable period where road subgrades or pavements are weak or are materially weakened by climatic conditions.

(8) If any truck shall cross a bridge with a total gross load in excess of the posted capacity of such bridge and as a result of such crossing any damage results to the bridge, the owner of such truck shall be responsible for all of such damage.

(9) Vehicles equipped with a greater number of axles than provided in the tables in subsection (4) of this section shall be legal if they do not exceed the maximum load upon any wheel or axle, the maximum load upon any group of two or more consecutive axles, and the total gross weight, or any of such weights as provided in subsections (2) and (4) of this section.

(10) Subsections (1) to (9) of this section

shall not apply to a vehicle which has been issued a permit pursuant to section 39-6,181.01 or to a rubber-tired crane with a fixed load when (a) such crane will be transported on a state highway, excluding any portion of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, on a city street, or on a road within the corporate limits of a city, (b) the city in which the crane is intended to be transported has authorized a one-day permit for the transportation of the crane specifying the route to be used and the hours during which the crane can be transported, except that no permit shall be issued by a city for travel on a state highway containing a bridge or structure which is structurally inadequate to carry the crane as determined by the Department of Roads, (c) such crane will be escorted by another vehicle or vehicles assigned by the city, (d) such vehicle's gross weight does not exceed eighty-five thousand pounds, if a four-axle crane, or sixty-seven thousand pounds, if a three-axle crane, and (e) if a four-axle crane, the maximum weight on each set of tandem axles does not exceed forty-two thousand five hundred pounds, or if a three-axle crane, the maximum weight on the front axle does not exceed twenty-five thousand pounds and the total maximum weight on the rear tandem axles does not exceed forty-two thousand five hundred pounds.

(11) Any two consecutive axles whose centers are more than forty inches and not more than ninety-six inches apart, measured to the nearest inch between any two adjacent axles in the series, shall be defined as tandem axles, and the gross weight transmitted to the road surface through such series shall not exceed thirty-four thousand pounds. No axle of the series shall exceed the maximum weight permitted under this section for a single axle.

(12) Dummy axles shall be disregarded in determining the lawful weight of a vehicle or vehicle combination for operation on the highway. Dummy axle shall mean an axle attached to a vehicle or vehicle combination in a manner so that it does not articulate or substantially equalize the load and does not carry at least eight per cent of the gross weight of the vehicle or vehicle combination.

Sec. 2. That original section 39-6,180, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1986, is repealed.