
DIGEST

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Monica

HB No. 278

Abstract: Requires trailers and semitrailers with a certain gross weight capacity newly registered in La. after Jan. 1, 2012, to be equipped with a safety device.

Present law requires every trailer and semitrailer with a loaded gross weight capacity of up to 6,000 pounds to be equipped with safety chains or other safety device approved by DPS&C.

Proposed law retains present law for trailers and semitrailers currently registered.

Proposed law requires all semitrailers and trailers to a loaded gross weight capacity of up to 10,000 pounds newly registered after Jan. 1, 2012, to be equipped with an approved safety device.

Proposed law provides that after Jan. 1, 2012, no private entity shall sell or offer for sale any newly manufactured trailer or semitrailer unless such trailer or semitrailer is equipped with an approved safety device.

Present law allows DPS&C, office of state police, to approve safety devices other than safety chains to be used when towing trailers or semitrailers. Requires the approval by the office of state police of the safety device to be in writing.

Proposed law allows DPS&C, office of state police, to approve safety devices excluding safety chains to be used when towing trailers or semitrailers. Requires the approval by the office of state police of the safety device to be in writing.

Proposed law provides that any safety device approved by DPS&C, office of state police, will have a stamp or a permanent label attached to the safety device and be applicable to the size of the load capacity of the trailer.

Proposed law provides that the provisions of proposed law shall not apply to trailers when the trailer is not in motion on a public road or highway and is used solely for farm purposes.

(Amends R.S. 32:384(D) and (E)(1)(intro. para.); Adds R.S. 32:384(E)(1)(d))