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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **3680**

March 3, 2008

Authored by Westrom

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Transportation Finance Division

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to transportation; regulating registration and operation of mini trucks;
1.3 amending Minnesota Statutes 2006, sections 168.011, subdivision 7; 168A.03,
1.4 subdivision 1; 169.01, subdivision 3a, by adding a subdivision; proposing coding
1.5 for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 169.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 168.011, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 7. **Passenger automobile.** (a) "Passenger automobile" means any motor
1.9 vehicle designed and used for carrying not more than 15 individuals, including the driver.

1.10 (b) "Passenger automobile" does not include motorcycles, motor scooters, buses,
1.11 school buses, or commuter vans as defined in section 168.126.

1.12 (c) "Passenger automobile" includes, but is not limited to:

1.13 (1) pickup trucks and vans, including those vans designed to carry passengers, with
1.14 a manufacturer's nominal rated carrying capacity of one ton; ~~and~~

1.15 (2) neighborhood electric vehicles, as defined in section 169.01, subdivision 91; and

1.16 (3) mini trucks, as defined in section 169.01, subdivision 93.

1.17 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 168A.03, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.18 Subdivision 1. **No certificate issued.** The registrar shall not issue a certificate of
1.19 title for:

1.20 (1) a vehicle owned by the United States;

1.21 (2) a vehicle owned by a nonresident and not required by law to be registered in
1.22 this state;

- 2.1 (3) a vehicle owned by a nonresident and regularly engaged in the interstate
2.2 transportation of persons or property for which a currently effective certificate of title
2.3 has been issued in another state;
- 2.4 (4) a vehicle moved solely by animal power;
- 2.5 (5) an implement of husbandry;
- 2.6 (6) special mobile equipment;
- 2.7 (7) a self-propelled wheelchair or invalid tricycle;
- 2.8 (8) a trailer (i) having a gross weight of 4,000 pounds or less unless a secured party
2.9 holds an interest in the trailer or a certificate of title was previously issued by this state or
2.10 any other state or (ii) designed primarily for agricultural purposes except a recreational
2.11 vehicle or a manufactured home, both as defined in section 168.011, subdivisions 8 and 25;
- 2.12 (9) a snowmobile; and
- 2.13 (10) a mini truck, as defined in section 169.01, subdivision 93.

2.14 Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.01, subdivision 3a, is amended to read:

2.15 Subd. 3a. **Passenger vehicle.** "Passenger vehicle" means a passenger automobile
2.16 defined in section 168.011, subdivision 7; a pickup truck defined in section 168.011,
2.17 subdivision 29; a van defined in section 168.011, subdivision 28; and a self-propelled,
2.18 recreational vehicle or mini truck licensed under chapter 168 to use the public streets or
2.19 highways. "Passenger vehicle" does not include a motorcycle, motorized bicycle, bus,
2.20 school bus, a vehicle designed to operate exclusively on railroad tracks, a farm truck
2.21 defined in section 168.011, subdivision 17, or special mobile equipment defined in section
2.22 168.011, subdivision 22.

2.23 Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 169.01, is amended by adding a subdivision
2.24 to read:

2.25 Subd. 93. **Mini truck.** "Mini truck" means a motor vehicle that is imported into
2.26 the United States, is propelled by a motor with a piston displacement capacity of 660
2.27 cubic centimeters or less, has a gross vehicle weight less than or equal to 2,000 pounds,
2.28 contains an enclosed space for the vehicle operator, and commonly resembles a pickup
2.29 truck, including a cargo area or bed located at the rear of the vehicle. A mini truck does
2.30 not include a neighborhood electric vehicle or an all-terrain vehicle, as defined in section
2.31 84.92, subdivision 8.

2.32 Sec. 5. [169.2245] MINI TRUCKS.

3.1 Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section, "road authority" has the
3.2 meaning given in section 169.224, subdivision 1.

3.3 Subd. 2. **Required equipment.** Notwithstanding sections 169.48 to 169.68, or any
3.4 other law, a mini truck may be operated on public streets and highways if it is equipped
3.5 with:

3.6 (1) at least two headlamps;

3.7 (2) at least two taillamps;

3.8 (3) front and rear turn signal lamps;

3.9 (4) an exterior mirror mounted on the driver's side of the vehicle and either an
3.10 exterior mirror mounted on the passenger's side of the vehicle or an interior mirror;

3.11 (5) a windshield;

3.12 (6) a seat belt for the driver and front passenger; and

3.13 (7) a parking brake.

3.14 Subd. 3. **Operation.** A mini truck may not be operated on a street or highway with
3.15 a speed limit greater than 35 miles per hour, except to make a direct crossing of that
3.16 street or highway.

3.17 Subd. 4. **Restrictions and prohibitions.** (a) A road authority, including the
3.18 commissioner of transportation by order, may prohibit or further restrict the operation of
3.19 mini trucks on any street or highway under the road authority's jurisdiction.

3.20 (b) A mini truck may not be used to take any examination to demonstrate ability to
3.21 exercise control in the operation of a motor vehicle as required under section 171.13.