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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION

HOUSE FILE NO. 2920

February 12, 2010
Authored by Welti and Beard
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Transportation and Transit Policy and Oversight Division
March 9, 2010
Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:
To Pass as Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor
March 15, 2010
By motion, recalled and re-referred to the Committee on Civil Justice

A bill for an act
relating to motor vehicles; clarifying definition of motor vehicle; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections 65B.43, subdivision 2; 169.09, subdivision 5a.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 65B.43, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **Motor vehicle.** "Motor vehicle" means every vehicle, other than a motorcycle or other vehicle with fewer than four wheels, which (a) is required to be registered pursuant to chapter 168, and (b) is designed to be self-propelled by an engine or motor for use primarily upon public roads, highways or streets in the transportation of persons or property, and includes a trailer with one or more wheels, when the trailer is connected to or being towed by a motor vehicle, in which case the combination of the single self-propelled vehicle and one or more trailers is considered a single motor vehicle for purposes of this definition.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 169.09, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

Subd. 5a. **Driver deemed agent of owner.** ~~Whenever any~~ (a) If a motor vehicle ~~shall be~~ is operated within this state~~, by any~~ by a person other than the owner, with the express or implied consent of the owner, ~~express or implied,~~ the operator ~~thereof shall~~, in case of accident, ~~be~~ is deemed the agent of the owner of ~~such~~ the motor vehicle in ~~the~~ its operation ~~thereof~~. For a single self-propelled vehicle connected to or towing one or more trailers, the operator of the motor vehicle is deemed to be an agent of the owner of the self-propelled portion of the motor vehicle combination, and not an agent of the owner of the trailer portion of the motor vehicle combination.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, "motor vehicle" has the meaning given in section 65B.43, subdivision 2.