

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 991**SENATE BILL NO. 2704****By Southerland**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2797

By McCord, Watson, Dean, Kevin Brooks, Haynes, Yokley, Bell, Hawk

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55 and Title 65, Chapter 15, relative to water activity motor carriers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-7-202, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(e)(1) Notwithstanding the limitations set forth in subsection (a), between 12:01 a.m. on the first Friday in March and 11:59 p.m. on the first Sunday in November each year, a motor vehicle carrying rafts or rafting apparatus used by an operator for commercial whitewater rafting purposes, when the driver of such motor vehicle possesses written documentation from the Department of Revenue that such operator is in compliance with the policy of liability insurance provisions in § 65-15-110(b), and having a height, including any part of the load, that exceeds thirteen feet (13') but does not exceed seventeen and one-half feet (17 1/2') may operate on the following state highway segments:

(A) State Route 40 (United States Highway 64) in Polk County between State Route 33 (United States Highway 411) east of Cleveland and State Route 68 in Ducktown (Ocoee River); and

(B) Interstate 40 in Cocke County between the Foothills Parkway and the Tennessee-North Carolina border (Pigeon River);

and within five (5) miles of such highway segments upon any additional public road as necessary to travel to and from such operator's place of business to such highway or to and from such highway to such operator's river access point, so long as the load is secured and the vehicle is operated in a safe manner at all times.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require the Department of Transportation or any other entity to design, construct, or maintain overhead structures on or along such highways or public roads with a clearance in excess of thirteen feet (13') or any otherwise applicable design standard.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-7-204, is amended by adding the following language to the end of the present language:

No bus with a trailer attached, the total length of which combination, including any part of the body or load, exceeds sixty-five feet (65') shall be operated on any highway. No school bus as defined in § 55-8-101 transporting children to or from school or for extracurricular activities shall be operated on any highway with a trailer attached.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 17, 2010



RON RAMSEY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



KENT WILLIAMS, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 2nd day of June 2010



PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR