

CHAPTER 244—H.F.No. 532

An act relating to highways; allowing two-way operation of snowmobiles on either side of highway right-of-way when authorized by commissioner of transportation; amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 84.87, subdivision 1.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 84.87, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **OPERATION ON STREETS AND HIGHWAYS.** (a) No person shall operate a snowmobile upon the roadway, shoulder, or inside bank or slope of any trunk, county state-aid, or county highway in this state and, in the case of a divided trunk or county highway, on the right-of-way between the opposing lanes of traffic, except as provided in sections 84.81 to 84.90. No person shall operate a snowmobile within the right-of-way of any trunk, county state-aid, or county highway between the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, except on the right-hand side of such right-of-way and in the same direction as the highway traffic on the nearest lane of the roadway adjacent thereto. No snowmobile shall be operated at any time within the right-of-way of any interstate highway or freeway within this state.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision of paragraph (a) to the contrary, but under conditions prescribed by the commissioner of transportation, the commissioner of transportation may allow two-way operation of snowmobiles on either side of the trunk highway right-of-way where the commissioner of transportation determines that two-way operation will not endanger users of the trunk highway or riders of the snowmobiles using the trail.

~~(b)~~ (c) A snowmobile may make a direct crossing of a street or highway at any hour of the day provided:

(1) the crossing is made at an angle of approximately 90 degrees to the direction of the highway and at a place where no obstruction prevents a quick and safe crossing; and

(2) the snowmobile is brought to a complete stop before crossing the shoulder or main traveled way of the highway; and

(3) the driver yields the right-of-way to all oncoming traffic which constitutes an immediate hazard; and

(4) in crossing a divided highway, the crossing is made only at an intersection of such highway with another public street or highway; and

(5) if the crossing is made between the hours of one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise or in conditions of reduced visibility, only if both front and rear lights are on; and

(6) a snowmobile may be operated upon a bridge, other than a bridge that is part of the main traveled lanes of an interstate highway, when required for the purpose of

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avoiding obstructions to travel when no other method of avoidance is possible; provided the snowmobile is operated in the extreme right-hand lane, the entrance to the roadway is made within 100 feet of the bridge and the crossing is made without undue delay.

(e) (d) No snowmobile shall be operated upon a public street or highway unless it is equipped with at least one headlamp, one tail lamp, each of minimum candlepower as prescribed by rules of the commissioner, reflector material of a minimum area of 16 square inches mounted on each side forward of the handle bars, and with brakes each of which shall conform to standards prescribed by rule of the commissioner pursuant to the authority vested in the commissioner by section 84.86, and each of which shall be subject to approval of the commissioner of public safety.

~~(d)~~ (e) A snowmobile may be operated upon a public street or highway other than as provided by ~~clause (b)~~ paragraph (c) in an emergency during the period of time when and at locations where snow upon the roadway renders travel by automobile impractical.

~~(e)~~ (f) All provisions of chapters 169 and 169A shall apply to the operation of snowmobiles upon streets and highways, except for those relating to required equipment, and except those which by their nature have no application. Section 169.09 applies to the operation of snowmobiles anywhere in the state or on the ice of any boundary water of the state.

~~(f)~~ (g) Any sled, trailer, or other device being towed by a snowmobile must be equipped with reflective materials as required by rule of the commissioner.

Presented to the governor May 18, 2004

Signed by the governor May 29, 2004, 9:00 a.m.

CHAPTER 245—H.F.No. 2078

An act relating to public transit; clarifying railroad grade crossing requirements; authorizing regulation of light rail transit warning signals; clarifying crimes involving public transit; providing penalties; amending Minnesota Statutes 2002, section 609.855, subdivision 1, by adding a subdivision; Minnesota Statutes 2003 Supplement, section 169.28, subdivision 1; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 473.

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2003 Supplement, section 169.28, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **STOP REQUIRED.** (a) The driver of any motor vehicle carrying passengers for hire, or of any school bus whether carrying passengers or not, or of any Head Start bus whether carrying passengers or not, or of any vehicle that is required

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