# No. 671

# AN ACT

Amending the act of May one, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 905), entitled "An act for the protection of the public safety; regulating the use of highways, and the operation of vehicles, tractors, street cars, trackless trolley omnibuses, bicycles, pedestrians, and the riding of animals upon the highways of this Commonwealth; providing for the titling, including liens, encumbrances, and legal claims; registration of certain vehicles and licensing the operators thereof, upon payment of prescribed fees; prescribing and limiting the powers of local authorities to deal with the subject matter of this act; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, the Department of Highways, peace officers, mayors, burgesses, magistrates, aldermen \*justices of the peace, the courts and the clerks thereof, owners of vehicles, and garage keepers; providing that records are admissible as evidence; imposing upon owners, counties, cities, boroughs, incorporated towns, townships, within the Commonwealth, liability for damages caused by the negligent operation of their motor vehicles; imposing penalties; imposing certain costs upon counties; providing for the disposition of fines, forfeitures, fees, and miscellaneous receipts; making an appropriation and providing for refunds," further regulating applications for registration; changing annual registration fees for certain commercial motor vehicles, truck tractors, trailers and semi-trailers; prescribing certain engine capacity and additional equipment requirements for certain vehicles; changing the maximum gross weights allowed for certain vehicles, providing a formula for determining the gross maximum weights, and prescribing penalties.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Penn- The Vehicle Code. sylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 102, act of May one, one thousand Section 102, act nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 905), known as "The Vehicle Code." is amended by adding after amended by as "The Vehicle Code," is amended by adding, after amended by adding a new the definition of "Motor Vehicles," a new definition to read:

definition.

Section 102. Definitions.—The following words and phrases when used in this act, shall, for the purpose of this act, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

"Net Brake Horsepower." The net brake horsepower of a vehicle is the horsepower delivered to the clutch or its equivalent with all accessories and attachments (including exhaust pipe, muffler and tail pipe), which are standard or regular equipment on the engine as

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;justice" in original.

installed in the vehicle, functioning at the governed speed as certified to by the manufacturer, or otherwise determined by the secretary.

Subsection (a), section 402, act of May 1, 1929, P. L. 905, amended April 11, 1949, P. L. 423, further amended.

Section 2. Subsection (a) of section 402 of the act, amended April eleven, one thousand nine hundred fortynine (Pamphlet Laws 423), is amended to read:

Application for Registration.—(a) Ap-Section 402. plication for the registration of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer, shall be made to the department, upon a form furnished by the department. The application shall contain the full name and the actual or bona fide address of the owner or owners, together with the name, manufacturer's serial number, the character of the motive power, [and the horsepower or] seating capacity, and, in the case of commercial motor vehicles, [the gross weight of the chassis as given and certified \*to by the manufacturer, the number of square inches of aggregate braking surface of the service brakes as given and certified to by the manufacturer, the rated net brake horsepower of the engine or motor, the governed speed at which determined, and a declaration of the class in which the vehicle is to be registered, together with the maximum gross weight allowed for such class, and, in the case of electric commercial motor vehicles, the gross maximum weight of chassis, battery, body, and load, as given and certified to by the manufacturer, and, in the case of trailers, and semi-trailers, the combined weight of the chassis and body, \*\*if so constructed, or the [gross] weight of the trailer or semi-trailer exclusive of the load to be transported, and, in the case of trailers or semi-trailers other than those designed and used exclusively as living quarters, a declaration of the class in which the trailer or semi-trailer is to be registered and the maximum gross weight allowed for such class, and also such description of the motor vehicle, trailer, or semi-trailer, including lamps and other equipment, as the secretary shall require. The application shall be signed by the owner, if a natural person, and in cases where the owner is a corporation, copartnership, or association, by an executive officer thereof or some person specifically authorized by said corporation, copartnership, or association to sign the same, and shall be accompanied by the fee provided in this act.

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;to" omitted in original.
\*\* "is" in original.

Section 3. Sections 703, 704, 706 and 811 of the act, amended June thirty, one thousand nine hundred fifty-five (Pamphlet Laws 225), are amended to read:

Section 703. Commercial Motor Vehicles and Truck Tractors with Pneumatic Tires.—Commercial motor vehicles and truck tractors with pneumatic tires, other than those electrically operated, shall be divided into eight (8) classes, and the fee for annual registration of such vehicles in each of the respective classes, based on the maximum gross [chassis] weight, [as given and certified to by the manufacturer,] shall be as follows:

Sections 703, 704, 706 and 811, act of May 1, 1929, P. L. 905, amended June 30, 1955, P. L. 225, further amended.

termina to by the management, share so as ronows.				
Four-Wheeled	$Max_1mum$			
	Gross Weight			
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	in Pounds.	Fee.		
R [Less than 2000,]	5000	\$16.50		
S [2000 and over, but less than 3000,]	7'000	26.00		
T [3000 and over, but less than 4000,]		35.00		
U [4000 and over, but less than 5000,]		55.00		
V [5000 and over, but less than 6000,]		90.00		
W [6000 and over, but less than 7500,]		120.00		
Y [7500 and over, but less than 9000,]		190.00		
Z [9000 and over,]		225.00		
Six-Wheeled (3 Axles)	Maximum			
DIA WHOOLOU (O IIAICO)	Gross Weight			
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	in Pounds.	Fee.		
	12000	\$48.00		
[	14000	60.00		
	16000	72.00		
TTT	26000	132.00		
	31000	168.00		
	36000	208.00		
YZ [9000 and over, but less than 12000,]		252.00		
ZZ [12000 and over,]		300.00		
Eight-Wheeled Commercial Vehicles	Maximum			
(4 Axles in Pairs)	Gross Weight			
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	in Pounds.	Fee.		
[ to an a large and a large an				
RX [3000 and over, but less than 4000,]		\$60.00		
L	16000	72.00		
TX [5000 and over, but less than 6000,]		132.00		
UX [6000 and over, but less than 7500,]		168.00		
VX [7500 and over, but less than 9000,]		208.00		
WX [9000 and over, but less than 12000,]		252.00		
	47000	300.00		
ZX [13500 and over,]	60000	360.00		

Section 704. Commercial Motor Vehicles and Truck Tractors with Solid Rubber or Cushion Rubber Tires.—Commercial motor vehicles and truck tractors with solid rubber or cushion rubber tires, approved by the Secretary of Highways of this Commonwealth, other than

those electrically operated, shall be divided into eight (8) classes, and the fee for the annual registration of such vehicles in each of the respective classes based on the maximum gross [chassis] weight [as given and certified to by the manufacturer], shall be as follows:

Four-Wheeled Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Maximum Gross Weight	-
(Solid Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	in Pounds. 5000 7000	Fee. \$30.00 45.00
T [3000 and over, but less than 4000,]	11000 16500	75.00 120.00
W [6000 and over, but less than 7500,]	21000 26000	170.00 225.00
Z [9000 and over,]	33000	$285.00 \\ 340.00$
Six-Wheeled (3 Axles) Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Maximum Gross Weight	771
(Solid Rubber Tires)	in Pounds.	Fee.
RZ [2000 and over, but less than 3000,] SZ [3000 and over, but less than 4000,]	12000 14000	\$72.00 90.00
TZ [4000 and over, but less than 5000,]		110.00
	26000	200.00
VZ [6000 and over, but less than 7500,]		288.00
WZ [7500 and over, but less than 9000,]		311.00
YZ [9000 and over, but less than 12000,]	40000	375.00
<b>ZZ</b> [12000 and over,]		450.00
Four-Wheeled	Maximum	
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	${\it Gross~Weight}$	
		Fee.
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds.	Fee. \$25.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.] (Cushion Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	Gross Weight in Pounds 5000	$$25.00 \\ 37.00$
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.] (Cushion Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	Gross Weight in Pounds 5000 7000 11000	\$25.00 37.00 66.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.] (Cushion Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	Gross Weight in Pounds. 5000 7000 11000 16500	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.] (Cushion Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	Gross Weight in Pounds. 5000 7000 11000 16500 21000	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.] (Cushion Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds. 5000 7000 11000 16500 21000 26000 30000	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.] (Cushion Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	Gross Weight in Pounds. 5000 7000 11000 16500 21000 26000 30000	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.] (Cushion Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.] (Cushion Rubber Tires)  R [Less than 2000,]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00 275.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00 275.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00 275.00 Fee. \$60.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00 275.00 Fee. \$60.00 75.00 90.00 162.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00 275.00 Fee. \$60.00 75.00 90.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00 275.00 \$60.00 75.00 90.00 162.00 213.00 250.00
Class. [Chassis Weight in Pounds.]	Gross Weight in Pounds.  5000 7000 11000 16500 21000 26000 30000 Maximum Gross Weight in Pounds.  12000 14000 16000 26000 31000 36000 40000	\$25.00 37.00 66.00 99.00 140.00 177.00 230.00 275.00 \$60.00 75.00 90.00 162.00 213.00

Section 706. Trailers and Semi-Trailers.—Trailers and semi-trailers equipped with pneumatic or solid rubber or cushion rubber tires approved by the Secretary of Highways shall be divided into seven (7) classes, and the fee for annual registration of such vehicles in each of the respective classes, based on [the combined weight of chassis and body, if so constructed, or] the gross weight of the trailer or semi-trailer [exclusive of] and the load to be transported, shall be as follows:

			Ti	re Equipn	nent
		aximum		$\mathbf{Fee}$	
		ss Weigh			0.1:3
Class.	[Weight in Pounds.] in		matic.	=	
A	[Less than 1000,]	3000	\$10.00	\$12.00	\$15.00
В	[1000 and over, but less than 2000,]	8000	30.00	35.00	40.00
C	[2000 and over, but less than 3000,]	10000	45.00	60.00	75.00
D	[3000 and over, but less than 4000,]	12000	57.00	75.00	95.00
E	[4000 and over, but less than 5000,]	14000	73.00	95.00	115.00
F	[5000 and over, but less than 6000,]	16000	88.00	110.00	135.00
G	[6000 and over,]	22400	125.00	150.00	175.00
			Ti	re Equipm	ent
		ıximum		re Equipm Fee	ent
			Pneu-		ent Solid.
Traile	3		Pneu-	Fee	
Traile: Class.	r or Semi-Trailer Gros [Weight in Pounds.] in	s Weight Pounds.	Pneu- matic.	Fee Cushion.	Solid.
Traile Class. A	r or Semi-Trailer Gros [Weight in Pounds.] in I [Less than 1000,] [1000 and over, but less than	s Weight Pounds. 3000	Pneumatic. \$10.00	Fee Cushion. \$12.00	Solid. \$15.00
Traile Class. A B	r or Semi-Trailer Gros [Weight in Pounds.] in [Less than 1000,]  [1000 and over, but less than 2000,] [2000 and over, but less than	s Weight Pounds. 3000 6000	Pneumatic. \$10.00	Fee Cushion. \$12.00	Solid. \$15.00 40.00
Traile Class. A B	r or Semi-Trailer Gros [Weight in Pounds.] in I [Less than 1000,]  [1000 and over, but less than 2000,]  [2000 and over, but less than 3000,]  [3000 and over, but less than	s Weight Pounds. 3000 6000 10000	Pneumatic. \$10.00 30.00 45.00	Fee Cushion. \$12.00 32.00 60.00	Solid. \$15.00 40.00 75.00
Traile Class. A B C	r or Semi-Trailer Gros [Weight in Pounds.] in I [Less than 1000,]  [1000 and over, but less than 2000,]  [2000 and over, but less than 3000,]  [3000 and over, but less than 4000,]  [4000 and over, but less than	s Weight Pounds. 3000 6000 10000	Pneumatic. \$10.00 30.00 45.00 57.00	Fee Cushion. \$12.00 32.00 60.00 75.00	Solid. \$15.00 40.00 75.00 95.00

			Tire Equipment		
	M	aximum		$\mathbf{Fee}$	
Six-W	heeled (3 Axles) Trailer Gro	ss Weight	Pneu-		
Class.	[Weight in Pounds.] in	Pounds.	matic.	Cushion.	Solid.
$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{Z}$	[Less than 3000,]	12000	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$55.00
$\mathbf{BZ}$	[3000 and over, but less than				
	4000,]	<i>15000</i>	55.00	60.00	67.00
$\mathbf{CZ}$	[4000 and over, but less than				
	5000,]	20000	75.00	85.00	90.00
$\mathbf{DZ}$	[5000 and over, but less than				
	6000,]	26000	97.00	105.00	120.00
$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{Z}$	[6000 and over, but less than				
	7000,]	30000	112.00	120.00	135.00
$\mathbf{F}\mathbf{Z}$	[7000 and over, but less than				
	9000,]	34000	127.00	140.00	155.00
$\mathbf{G}\mathbf{Z}$	[9000 and over,]	47000	150.00	160.00	180.00

#### Section 811. Brakes.—

- (a) Every vehicle using the highways of this Commonwealth, except trailers and semi-trailers having chassis and body weights of less than one thousand (1000) pounds, shall be equipped with brakes adequate to control the movement of, and to stop and to hold such vehicle. Brakes shall be capable of stopping the vehicle and its load, if any, traveling at a speed of twenty (20) miles per hour upon a dry, hard, approximately level stretch of highway, free from loose material, where the grade does not exceed one (1) per centum, within the following distances: namely, fifty-five (55) feet for emergency brakes, forty (40) feet for service brakes effective upon less than all wheels, and thirty (30) feet for service brakes effective upon all wheels. Brakes shall be maintained in good working order and so adjusted upon vehicles, other than motorcycles and bicycles with motors attached, as to operate as equally as practicable with respect to the wheels on opposite sides of the vehicles. Emergency brakes shall be adequate to hold such vehicle or vehicles stationary upon any grade upon which operated.
- (b) Every motor vehicle using the highways of this Commonwealth, except motorcycles and bicycles with motors attached, shall be equipped with two (2) separate means of applying the brakes so constructed that failure of any one (1) part of the operating mechanism shall not leave the motor vehicle without operative brakes on at least two (2) wheels. One such means shall be an emergency brake employing a ratchet and pawl, or other suitable locking and releasing mechanism, effective to lock at least two (2) rear wheels on opposite sides of the vehicle. The other such means shall be a service brake effective upon all wheels of every such

motor vehicle sold new in this Commonwealth on or after the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred thirty-six, and upon at least two (2) wheels of every other such motor vehicle.

(c) Every motorcycle, and bicycle with motor attached, using the highways of this Commonwealth, shall be provided with at least one (1) brake, which may be

operated by hand or foot.

(d) Every combination of a commercial motor vehicle and trailer, or truck tractor and semi-trailer, when operated upon a highway, shall be equipped with brakes so designed as to be applied upon both vehicles by the driver of the towing motor vehicle from its cab. The brakes shall be so designed and connected that, in case of an accidental breakaway of the towed vehicle, the brakes thereof shall be automatically applied, and stop and hold such vehicle for at least fifteen (15) minutes.

(e) Every commercial motor vehicle and every combination of a commercial motor vehicle and trailer, or of a truck tractor and semi-trailer, when used on a public highway, shall be equipped with service brokes having an aggregate friction lining surface of not less than one (1) square inch for each fifty-five (55) pounds of maximum gross weight allowed by this act, and of a type designed for a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) degrees and a minimum of ninety (90) degrees friction surface per brake shoe. This subsection shall apply only to drum and shoe type brakes.

Penalty.—Any person violating any of the provisions of this section, shall, upon summary conviction before a magistrate, be sentenced to pay a fine of twenty-five (\$25) dollars and costs of prosecution, and, in default of the payment thereof, shall undergo imprisonment for

not more than five (5) days.

Section 4. The act is amended by adding, after section 821, a new section to read:

Section 821.1. Minimum Engine Capacity.—Every commercial motor vehicle and every combination of a commercial motor vehicle and trailer, or of a truck tractor and semi-trailer, when used on a highway, shall be equipped with an engine having a net brake horse-power ratio of not less than one brake horsepower at governed speed for each four hundred fifty (450) pounds of maximum gross weight allowed but not less than fifty (50) net brake horsepower.

Penalty.—Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall, upon summary conviction before a magistrate, be sentenced to pay a fine of one hundred (\$100) dollars and costs of prosecution, and, in default of the payment thereof, shall undergo imprisonment for

not more than ten (10) days.

Section 903, act of May 1, 1929, P. L. 905, amended June 30, 1955, P. L. 225, further amended.

Section 5. Section 903 of the act, amended June thirty, one thousand nine hundred fifty-five (Pamphlet Laws 225), is amended to read:

Section 903. Weight of Vehicles and Loads .--

(a) Commercial motor vehicles and truck tractors, other than those electrically operated, shall not be used or operated on any highway with gross weight exceeding those specified for the several classes [and weights of chassis] as follows:

		Maximum
Four-	Wheeled (2 Axles)	Gross
C)	[Chassis Weight]	Weight
Class.	[in Pounds.]	in Pounds.
$\mathbf{R}$	[Less than 2000,]	5000
$\mathbf{s}$	[2000 and over, but less than 3000,]	7000
<b>T</b>	[3000 and over, but less than 4000,]	11000
U	[4000 and over, but less than 5000,]	16500
$\mathbf{v}$	[5000 and over, but less than 6000,]	21000
$\mathbf{W}$	[6000 and over, but less than 7500,]	26000
Y	[7500 and over, but less than 9000,]	30000
${f Z}$	[9000 and over,]	33000
Six-W Class. RZ SZ TZ UZ VZ WZ YZ ZZ	heeled (3 Axles)  [Chassis Weight]  [in Pounds.]  [2000 and over, but less than 3000,]  [3000 and over, but less than 4000,]  [4000 and over, but less than 5000,]  [5000 and over, but less than 6000,]  [6000 and over, but less than 7500]  [7500 and over, but less than 9000,]  [9000 and over, but less than 12000,]  [12000 and over,]	Maximum Gross Weight in Pounds.  12000 14000 26000 31000 36000 40000 47000
		Commercial Vehicles
-	Wheeled (4 Axles in Pairs) [Chassis Weight]	Maximum Gross Weight
Class.	[in Pounds.]	in Pounds.
RX	[3000 and over, but less than 4000,]	14000
SX	[4000 and over, but less than 5000,]	16000
TX	[5000 and over, but less than 6000,]	26000
UX	[6000 and over, but less than 7500,]	31000
VX	[7500 and over, but less than 9000,]	36000
WX	[9000 and over, but less than 12000,]	40000
YX	[12000 and over, but less than 13500,]	47000
ZX	[13500 and over,]	60000

(b) Electrically operated commercial motor vehicles and truck tractors shall not be used or operated on any highway with gross weight exceeding those specified for the several classes as follows:

Four-Wheeled (2 Axles)       Maximum Gross Weight in Pounds.         R       5000         S       7000         T       11000         U       15000         V       18000         W       22000         Y       25000         Z       26000	
Six-Wheeled (3 Axles)  Class.  RZ  12000 SZ  14000 TZ  16000 UZ  22000 VZ  26000 WZ  30000 YZ  30000 YZ  (c) Trailers and semi-trailers, except trailers designed and used exclusively for living quarters, shall not be used or operated on any highway with gross weight exceeding those specified for the several classes as follows:	
Trailer or Semi-Trailer  Maximum  Four-Wheeled (2 Axles)  Class. [Weight in Pounds.] in Pounds.  A [Less than 1000,] 3000  B [1000 and over, but less than 2000,] 6000  C [2000 and over, but less than 3000,] 10000  D [3000 and over, but less than 4000,] 16000  E [4000 and over, but less than 5000,] 20000  F [5000 and over, but less than 6000,] 24000  G [6000 and over,] 36000	)
Six-Wheeled (3 Axles) Trailer         Maximum Gross Weight Class.         [Weight in Pounds.]         in Pounds.           AZ [Less than 3000,]         12000         15000           BZ [3000 and over, but less than 4000,]         20000           CZ [4000 and over, but less than 5000,]         26000           DZ [5000 and over, but less than 6000,]         30000           EZ [6000 and over, but less than 7000,]         30000           FZ [7000 and over, but less than 9000,]         47000           GZ [9000 and over,]         47000	) ) )

		Maxi	imum
Two-V	Wheeled (1 Axle) Semi-Trailer	Gross 7	Weight
Class.	[Weight in Pounds.]	in Po	unds.
A	[Less than 1000,]		3000
$\mathbf{B}$	[1000 and over, but less than 2000,	]	8000
$\mathbf{C}$	[2000 and over, but less than 3000,]	]	10000
D	[3000 and over, but less than 4000,]		12000
${f E}$	[4000 and over, but less than 5000,]		14000
$\mathbf{F}$	[5000 and over, but less than 6000,]		16000
$\mathbf{G}$	[6000 and over,]		22400

(d) Whenever two vehicles are used or operated as a combination on any highway, the gross weight of the combination shall not exceed the sum of the maximum gross weights allowed for the respective vehicles and, in addition, the gross weight of the combination shall not exceed the gross weight specified as follows:

Maximum
Gross Weight
in Pounds.

Truck tractor and single-axle semi-trailer ...... 50000
Truck tractor and two-axle semi-trailer ...... 60000
Commercial motor vehicle and trailer ...... 62000

- (e) Maximum gross weights, provided in this section, are allowed only under conditions where no other restrictions are provided in this act or in any other laws regulating maximum gross weights of vehicles.
- (f) No vehicle shall be operated upon any highway with weight in excess of eighteen thousand (18,000) pounds upon any axle less than seventy-two (72) inches from any other axle, or with weight in excess of twenty-two thousand four hundred (22,400) pounds upon any other axle, or with weight in excess of eight hundred (800) pounds upon any one wheel for each nominal inch of width of tire on such wheel.
- (g) No vehicle with four or more wheels shall be operated upon any highway unless any two axles be at least thirty-six (36) inches apart. No truck tractor and semi-trailer shall be operated as a combination on any highway unless the rearmost axle of the truck tractor and the foremost axle of the semi-trailer be at least ninety-six (96) inches apart.
- (h) None of the restrictions provided in this section shall be applicable to fire department equipment or to any motor bus or motor omnibus.

Penalty.—Any person operating any vehicle or combination of vehicles, upon any highway, with a gross weight or with weight on any axle or wheel exceeding by more than three (3) per centum the maximum weight

allowed in that particular case, shall, upon summary conviction before a magistrate, be sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution and a fine for each and every pound of excess above the maximum weight allowed according to the following schedule:

The fine
shall be.
\$60.00
. 120.00
140.00
240.00
270.00
400.00
440.00
600.00

For each additional 500 pounds, or part thereof, over 6500 pounds, \$600.00 plus \$50.00 for each additional 500 pounds, or part thereof: Provided, That in any case, in which there shall be concurrent violations of more than one of the clauses of this section prescribing maximum weights, the penalty imposed shall be for violation of that clause which produces the greatest fine, but no penalty shall be imposed for violation of any other such clause.

Any person operating a vehicle, or combination of vehicles, in violation of clause (g) of this section, shall, upon summary conviction before a magistrate, be sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution and a fine of twenty-five (\$25) dollars.

In default of payment of any fine and costs of prosecution imposed, pursuant to the foregoing provisions of this penalty clause, the magistrate shall impound the vehicle, or combination of vehicles, and order the arresting officer, or other peace officer, to seize them. The magistrate shall, forthwith, notify the sheriff of the county wherein the violation occurred, who shall store the impounded vehicle, or combination of vehicles. The sheriff's costs, storage costs, and all other costs incident to impounding, shall be deemed additional costs of prosecution. The sheriff shall give immediate notice by telegram and registered mail, return receipt requested, of the impoundment and location of the vehicle, or combination of vehicles, to the owner of said vehicle, or combination of vehicles, and the owner of the load if said owners' names and addresses are known or can be ascertained by the sheriff.

The title to the load shall remain in the owner thereof, and he shall be entitled to repossess it at any time upon presentation of proof of such ownership to the sheriff. If the load shall spoil during possession by the Common-

wealth, the loss shall be upon the owner thereof, subject to any right of recovery of damages at common law that he may have against the owner of the vehicle or combination of vehicles and the cost of disposition thereof shall be deemed an additional cost of prosecution. In case any vehicle or combination of vehicles impounded, or the load thereon as aforesaid, shall remain unredeemed, in the case of the vehicle or combination of vehicles and unclaimed, in the case of a load, for a period of sixty (60) days after notice of impoundment is given as aforesaid, the same shall be deemed to be abandoned and shall be disposed of by the sheriff upon order of the magistrate, in accordance with the procedures \*outlined in section four of the act, approved the third day of July, one thousand nine hundred forty-one (Pamphlet Laws 263), with the exception that the reference to a court therein contained for the purposes of this act, shall be construed to mean magistrate: And provided further, That the proceeds of such sale after the payment of encumbrances shall be applied to the payment of fine and costs and the balance thereof shall be remitted to the owner.

For the enforcement of this section all peace officers shall have the power to arrest on view for violation of any of the provisions of this section.

Applicability.

Section 6. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of this amending act, all vehicles originally titled prior to January 1, 1957, shall thereafter be registered in the same class as originally registered, and this amending act shall apply only to vehicles originally titled on and after January 1, 1957.

Effective date.

Section 7. This act shall become effective January 1, 1957.

Approved—The 1st day of June, A. D. 1956.

GEORGE M. LEADER

### No. 672

### AN ACT

Amending the act of July eighteen, one thousand nine hundred seventeen (Pamphlet Laws 1043), entitled "An act establishing a public school employes' retirement system, and creating a retirement board for the administration thereof; establishing certain funds from contributions by the Commonwealth and contributing employes, defining the uses and purposes thereof and the manner of payments therefrom, and providing for the guaranty by the Commonwealth of certain of said funds; imposing powers and duties upon boards having the employment

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;cutlined" in original.