

39:3-24

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST  
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(Motor vehicles--exempt from  
registration--farm tractors)

NJSA: 39:3-24

LAWS OF: 1996 CHAPTER: 31

BILL NO: S100

SPONSOR(S): Haines

DATE INTRODUCED: Pre-filed

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Transportation

SENATE: Senior Citizens

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: February 5, 1996

SENATE: May 6, 1996

DATE OF APPROVAL: June 6, 1996

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT: Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes  
SENATE: Yes

FISCAL NOTE: Yes

VETO MESSAGE: No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:  
REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

KBP:pp

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P.L. 1996, CHAPTER 31, *approved June 6, 1996*

Senate No. 100

1 AN ACT exempting certain farm tractors from motor vehicle  
2 registration and amending R.S.39:3-24.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. R.S.39:3-24 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-24. (a) The director shall register farm tractors and traction  
9 equipment used for farm operation to travel upon the public highways.  
10 The fee for such registration shall be \$5 per annum, whether the  
11 registration is issued for the yearly period or only a portion thereof.  
12 Such traction equipment or farm tractors may draw farm machinery  
13 and implements while in transit from one farm to another without  
14 additional registration therefor.

15 (b) The director may register motor vehicles, not for hire, used  
16 exclusively as farm machinery or farm implements, to travel upon the  
17 public highways, from one farm, or portion thereof, to another farm,  
18 or portion thereof, both owned or managed by the registered owner of  
19 the vehicle or vehicles. The fee for such registration shall be \$5 per  
20 annum, whether the registration is issued for a yearly period or only a  
21 portion thereof. Any vehicle so registered and any truck registered  
22 pursuant to the provisions of 39:3-25 of this Title may draw not more  
23 than one vehicle used exclusively on the farm and a vehicle so drawn  
24 need not be registered.

25 (c) No vehicle registered pursuant to this section shall be operated  
26 on a public highway at any time from sunset to sunrise. Every such  
27 vehicle when operated on a public highway shall have means adequate  
28 to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle on any  
29 up or down grade and shall be operated in accordance with uniform  
30 rules and regulations prescribed by the Director of the Division of  
31 Motor Vehicles. Such rules and regulations shall specify the coverings  
32 that may be used on the wheels of such vehicles, the days, hours and  
33 conditions under which such vehicles can be operated, the  
34 circumstance under which escort vehicles shall be required, the  
35 distance that may be traveled upon the public highways and such  
36 vehicle equipment or other requirements or restrictions as may be  
37 necessary to protect the safety of the users of the public highways.

38 Motor vehicles, not for hire, which are used exclusively as farm  
39 tractors, traction equipment, farm machinery or farm implements  
40 which cannot be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour  
41 shall not be required to be registered under this section.

42 (cf: P.L.1994, c.60, s.16)

**EXPLANATION** - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1        2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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5

6 Excludes certain farm tractors from motor vehicle registration.

SENATE, No. 100

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Senator HAINES

1 AN ACT exempting certain farm tractors from motor vehicle  
2 registration and amending R.S.39:3-24.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. R.S.39:3-24 is amended to read as follows:

8 39:3-24. (a) The director shall register farm tractors and traction  
9 equipment used for farm operation to travel upon the public highways.  
10 The fee for such registration shall be \$4.00 per annum, whether the  
11 registration is issued for the yearly period or only a portion thereof.  
12 Such traction equipment or farm tractors may draw farm machinery  
13 and implements while in transit from one farm to another without  
14 additional registration therefor.

15 (b) The director may register motor vehicles, not for hire, used  
16 exclusively as farm machinery or farm implements, to travel upon the  
17 public highways, from one farm, or portion thereof, to another farm,  
18 or portion thereof, both owned or managed by the registered owner of  
19 the vehicle or vehicles. The fee for such registration shall be \$2.00 per  
20 annum, whether the registration is issued for a yearly period or only a  
21 portion thereof. Any vehicle so registered and any truck registered  
22 pursuant to the provisions of 39:3-25 of this Title may draw not more  
23 than one vehicle used exclusively on the farm and a vehicle so drawn  
24 need not be registered.

25 (c) No vehicle registered pursuant to this section shall be operated  
26 on a public highway at any time from sunset to sunrise. Every such  
27 vehicle when operated on a public highway shall have means adequate  
28 to control the movement of and to stop and hold such vehicle on any  
29 up or down grade and shall be operated in accordance with uniform  
30 rules and regulations prescribed by the Director of the Division of  
31 Motor Vehicles. Such rules and regulations shall specify the coverings  
32 that may be used on the wheels of such vehicles, the days, hours and

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 conditions under which such vehicles can be operated, the  
2 circumstance under which escort vehicles shall be required, the  
3 distance that may be traveled upon the public highways and such  
4 vehicle equipment or other requirements or restrictions as may be  
5 necessary to protect the safety of the users of the public highways.

6 Motor vehicles, not for hire, which are used exclusively as farm  
7 tractors, traction equipment, farm machinery or farm implements  
8 which cannot be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour  
9 shall not be required to be registered under this section.

10 (cf: P.L.1968, c.130, s.8)

11

12 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

13

14

15 SPONSORS STATEMENT

16

17 This bill would exclude farm tractors and equipment which cannot  
18 attain speeds of greater than 20 miles per hour from being registered  
19 as motor vehicles. Tractors that are capable of reaching speeds of  
20 greater than 20 miles per hour would not be excepted from  
21 registration.

22 The farm tractors excepted from registration under the bill rarely  
23 use the roads, crossing them only to reach other sections of farmland.  
24 Therefore, registration of these farm vehicles as motor vehicles is an  
25 unnecessary expense for farmers, and an unnecessary administrative  
26 expense for the State.

27

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31 Excludes certain farm tractors from motor vehicle registration.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
SENATE, No. 100

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MARCH 25, 1996

The Senate Transportation and Communications Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 100.

This bill would exclude farm tractors and equipment that cannot attain speeds of greater than 20 miles per hour from being registered as motor vehicles. Tractors that are capable of reaching speeds of greater than 20 miles per hour would not be excepted from registration. The annual registration fee is \$5.

SENATE SENIOR CITIZENS, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND  
AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 100

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JANUARY 18, 1996

The Senate Senior Citizens, Veterans Affairs and Agriculture Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No.100.

This bill would exclude farm tractors and equipment that cannot attain speeds of greater than 20 miles per hour from being registered as motor vehicles. Tractors that are capable of reaching speeds of greater than 20 miles per hour would not be excepted from registration. The annual registration fee is \$5.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 1996 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review which has been performed.

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE TO

SENATE, No. 100

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# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 15, 1996

Senate Bill No. 100 of 1996 excludes farm tractors, traction equipment, farm machinery and farm implements which cannot attain speeds greater than 20 miles per hour from being registered as motor vehicles.

Currently, all farm tractors and equipment which travel upon the public highways are required to be registered with the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in the Department of Transportation. The annual registration fee for farm tractors, traction equipment, farm machinery or farm implements is \$5.

In a previous estimate for a similar proposal, Senate Bill No. 176 of 1994, DMV assumed that all farm vehicles currently registered would become exempt from registration fees. Thus, approximately 4,300 farm tractors and other types of traction equipment and 4,600 motor vehicles used as farm machinery and farm implements would be excluded.

If that previous DMV assumption was continued, the exclusion would result in a total annual revenue loss of about \$57,000. This amount is composed of \$44,500 from registration fees, \$8,900 from emergency medical helicopter surcharges imposed pursuant to P.L.1992, c.87 (C.39:3-8.2) and \$3,600 from reflectorized license plate surcharges imposed pursuant to P.L.1989, c.202 (C.39:3-33.9).

As an offset, DMV previously estimated a savings of \$5,700 from various materials and supplies. Consequently, the apparent net cost to the State would be \$51,300 in foregone annual revenue.

The Office of Legislative Services finds that DMV's previous estimate may overstate the net cost to the State. The previous DMV estimate represents the maximum loss to the State. However, not all currently registered farm tractors and vehicles may meet the criteria established by this bill. In addition, DMV did not account for a possible reduction in administrative costs associated with processing a reduced number of registrations. Therefore, the actual "loss" to the State may be lower than the inferred \$51,300 amount.

The legislative fiscal estimate has been produced by the Office of Legislative Services due to the failure of the Executive Branch to respond to our request for a fiscal note.

This fiscal estimate has been prepared pursuant to P.L.1980, c.67.