HB 1255 2008

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to motor vehicles; amending s. 316.515, F.S.; revising restrictions on use of certain agriculture-related vehicles; providing conditions for use of agricultural equipment and implements of husbandry; authorizing the Department of Transportation to issue blanket multitrip, overwidth permits for agricultural equipment and implements of husbandry up to a certain size and single-trip, overwidth permits for larger agricultural equipment and implements of husbandry; providing for fees; providing conditions for such use; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 316.515, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.515 Maximum width, height, length.--

- (5) IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY; AGRICULTURAL TRAILERS; FORESTRY EQUIPMENT; SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.--
- (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, straight trucks, agricultural tractors, and cotton module movers, not exceeding 50 feet in length, or any combination of up to and including three implements of husbandry, including the towing power unit, and any single agricultural trailer with a load thereon are or any agricultural implements attached to a towing power unit not exceeding 130 inches in width, or a self-propelled agricultural implement or an agricultural tractor not

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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exceeding 130 inches in width, is authorized for the purpose of transporting peanuts, grains, soybeans, cotton, hay, straw, or other perishable farm products from their point of production to the first point of change of custody or of long-term storage, and for the purpose of returning to such point of production, or for the purpose of moving such tractors, movers, and implements from one point of agricultural production to another, by a person engaged in the production of any such product or custom hauler, if such vehicle or combination of vehicles otherwise complies with this section. The Department of Transportation may issue overwidth permits for implements of husbandry greater than 130 inches, but not more than 170 inches, in width. The Department of Transportation may issue overlength permits for cotton module movers greater than 50 feet but not more than 55 feet in overall length. Such vehicles shall be operated in accordance with all safety requirements prescribed by law and rules of the Department of Transportation.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, agricultural equipment and implements of husbandry not exceeding 192 inches in width used for agricultural purposes are authorized for the purpose of moving from one point of agricultural production to another, if such movement is performed during daylight hours within a radius of 50 miles of the point of origin and no part of such movement is upon any highway designated as a part of the national system of interstate and defense highways or any fully controlled access highway facility. The Department of Transportation may issue blanket multitrip, overwidth permits for agricultural equipment

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and implements of husbandry greater than 192 inches but no more than 264 inches in width. The annual fee for the blanket multitrip, overwidth permit shall be \$25. The Department of Transportation may issue single-trip, overwidth permits for agricultural equipment and implements of husbandry greater than 264 inches in width. The fee for a single-trip, overwidth permit shall be \$50 and the equipment must have flags, lights, signs, and an escort. Such vehicles shall be operated in accordance with all safety requirements prescribed by law and rules of the Department of Transportation.

(c) (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, equipment not exceeding 136 inches in width and not capable of speeds exceeding 20 miles per hour which is used exclusively for harvesting forestry products is authorized for the purpose of transporting equipment from one point of harvest to another point of harvest, not to exceed 10 miles, by a person engaged in the harvesting of forestry products. Such vehicles must be operated during daylight hours only, in accordance with all safety requirements prescribed by s. 316.2295(5) and (6).

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.