

CHAPTER NO. 42

HOUSE BILL NO. 74

INTRODUCED BY GOULD

BY REQUEST OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

IN THE HOUSE

January 4, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Highways and Transportation.
January 6, 1979	On motion joint rule 6-6 suspended and sponsor's signature allowed to be added to Pre-Filed bill.
January 18, 1979	Committee recommend bill do pass and be placed on Consent Calendar. Report adopted.
January 19, 1979	Printed and placed on members' desks.
January 22, 1979	Third Reading Consent Calendar passed. Transmitted to Second House.

IN THE SENATE

January 23, 1979	Introduced and referred to Committee on Highways and Transportation.
February 5, 1979	Committee recommend bill be concurred in. Report adopted.
February 7, 1979	Second Reading, concurred in.
February 9, 1979	Third Reading, concurred in.

IN THE HOUSE

February 10, 1979

Returned from Second House.
Concurred in.

Sent to enrolling.
Reported correctly enrolled.

HOUSE BILL NO. 78

INTRODUCED BY _____

BY REQUEST OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 61-9-204 AND 61-9-205 TO DECREASE THE MINIMUM HEIGHT REQUIREMENT FOR TAILLAMPS AND REFLECTORS FROM 20 INCHES TO 15 INCHES TO CONFORM TO FEDERAL REGULATIONS."

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

Section 1. Section 61-9-204, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-9-204. Tail lamps. (1) Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer and any other vehicle which is being drawn at the end of a train of vehicles shall be equipped with at least one tail lamp mounted on the rear, which, when lighted as hereinbefore required, shall emit a red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear, provided that in the case of a train of vehicles only the tail lamp on the rearmost vehicle need actually be seen from the distance specified. Further, every such above-mentioned vehicle, other than a truck tractor, registered in this state and manufactured or assembled after January 1, 1956, shall be equipped with at least two tail lamps mounted on the rear, which when lighted as herein required, shall comply with the provisions of this section.

(2) Every tail lamp upon every vehicle shall be located at a height of not more than 72 inches or less than 20 1/2 inches.

(3) Either tail lamp or a separate lamp shall be so constructed and placed as to illuminate with a white light the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any tail lamp or tail lamps, together with any separate lamp for illuminating the rear registration plate, shall be so wired as to be lighted whenever the headlights or auxiliary driving lamps are lighted."

Section 2. Section 61-9-205, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-9-205. New motor vehicles to be equipped with reflectors. (1) Every new motor vehicle hereafter sold and operated upon a highway, other than a truck tractor, shall carry on the rear, either as a part of the tail lamps or separately, two red reflectors, except that every motorcycle and motor-driven cycle shall carry at least one reflector meeting the requirements of this section, and except that vehicles of the type mentioned in 61-9-206 shall be equipped with reflectors as required in those sections applicable thereto.

(2) Every such reflector shall be mounted on the vehicle at a height not less than 20 1/2 inches or more than 60 inches measured as set forth in 61-9-202(2) and shall be

1 of such size and characteristics and so mounted as to be
2 visible at night from all distances within 300 feet to 50
3 feet from such vehicle when directly in front of lawful
4 upper beams of headlamps, except that visibility from a
5 greater distance ~~is~~ hereinafter may be required of
6 reflectors on certain types of vehicles."

-End-

Approved by Committee
on Highways & Transportation

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 11 Section 1. Section 61-9-204, MCA, is amended to read:
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 13 trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer and any other vehicle
 14 which is being drawn at the end of a train of vehicles shall
 15 be equipped with at least one taillamp mounted on the rear,
 16 which, when lighted as hereinbefore required, shall emit a
 17 red light plainly visible from a distance of 500 feet to the
 18 rear, provided that in the case of a train of vehicles only
 19 the taillamp on the rearmost vehicle need actually be seen
 20 from the distance specified. Further, every such
 21 above-mentioned vehicle, other than a truck tractor,
 22 registered in this state and manufactured or assembled after
 23 January 1, 1956, shall be equipped with at least two
 24 taillamps mounted on the rear, which when lighted as herein
 25 required, shall comply with the provisions of this section.

1 (2) Every taillamp upon every vehicle shall be located
 2 at a height of not more than 72 inches or less than 20 15
 3 inches.

4 (3) Either taillamp or a separate lamp shall be so
 5 constructed and placed as to illuminate with a white light
 6 the rear registration plate and render it clearly legible
 7 from a distance of 50 feet to the rear. Any taillamp or
 8 taillamps, together with any separate lamp for illuminating
 9 the rear registration plate, shall be so wired as to be
 10 lighted whenever the headlamps or auxiliary driving lamps
 11 are lighted."

12 Section 2. Section 61-9-205, MCA, is amended to read:
 13 "61-9-205. New motor vehicles to be equipped with
 14 reflectors. (1) Every new motor vehicle hereafter sold and
 15 operated upon a highway, other than a truck tractor, shall
 16 carry on the rear, either as a part of the taillamps or
 17 separately, two red reflectors, except that every motorcycle
 18 and motor-driven cycle shall carry at least one reflector
 19 meeting the requirements of this section, and except that
 20 vehicles of the type mentioned in 61-9-208 shall be equipped
 21 with reflectors as required in those sections applicable
 22 thereto.

23 (2) Every such reflector shall be mounted on the
 24 vehicle at a height not less than 20 15 inches or more than
 25 50 inches measured as set forth in 61-9-202(2) and shall be

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2 visible at night from all distances within 300 feet to 50
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