

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 348

BY SENATOR RISER

FEES/LICENSES/PERMITS. Provides relative to operation of dual-purpose farm and construction equipment on highways. (8/1/14)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:385(A)(1), relative to motor vehicles; to provide with respect  
3 to the requirements for farm vehicles and equipment or for dual-purpose farm and  
4 construction equipment or machinery to operate on highways; to provide for  
5 exemptions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 32:385(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §385. Farm vehicles and equipment; exemptions

9 A.(1)(a) Farm and agricultural vehicles and equipment, except draglines and  
10 bulldozers, being operated or transported for bona fide agricultural purposes or the  
11 transportation of farm vehicles and equipment **or dual-purpose farm and**  
12 **construction equipment or machinery** to be used for normal farm purposes by  
13 persons transporting such farm equipment or machinery, for distances not to exceed  
14 fifty miles from the point of origin, and fertilizer tending units shall be exempt from  
15 the requirements of R.S. 32:380 through 382 and, additionally, farm equipment shall  
16 be exempt from the requirements of R.S. 32:384.

17 (b) **Farm and agricultural vehicles and equipment, except draglines and**



than 12,000 pounds from width (R.S.32:380) when owned and used by a retail business in this state and designed and used exclusively for the purposes of pick-up or delivery of new, used, or repaired farm equipment for distances not to exceed 50 miles from the point of origin.

Proposed law adds exemption for dual-purpose farm and construction equipment or machinery.

Proposed law exempts farm and agricultural vehicles and equipment, except draglines and bulldozers, being operated to transport dual-purpose farm and construction equipment or machinery for normal farm purposes from width (R.S. 32:380), height (R.S. 32:381), length (R.S. 32:382) and trailers and towed vehicle (R.S. 32:384) requirements provided by law and authorizes such vehicles to use any public highways except interstate highways during the period from 30 minutes after sunrise until thirty minutes before sunset without obtaining a special permit for distances more than 50 miles from the point of origin provided such vehicles shall meet the following requirements:

- (1) Operate with escort vehicles ahead of and behind them.
- (2) Observe traffic signals and regulatory signs, including escort vehicles.
- (3) Operate only in daylight hours.
- (4) Do not operate in rain or other weather conditions unsafe for such operation.
- (5) Observe all safety standards for farm equipment.
- (6) Do not operate on interstate highways.
- (7) Do not operate on or across a bridge with a posted weight limit.

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 32:385(A)(1))