

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 587, September 22, 1950 ]**

**AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTIONS (A) AND (6) OF SECTION THREE, ARTICLE TWO OF CHAPTER ONE; SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (D) OF SECTION FIVE, SUBSECTIONS (A), (B), (C), (I), (J), (M) AND (N) OF SECTION SEVEN OF ARTICLE ONE, SECTION EIGHT, SUBSECTIONS (A) AND (D) OF SECTION NINE, AND SECTION TEN, ARTICLE TWO OF CHAPTER TWO, AND INSERT A NEW SECTION BETWEEN SECTIONS EIGHT AND NINE OF THIS ARTICLE TO BE KNOWN AS SECTION EIGHT-A WITH NEW SUBSECTIONS (A), (B), (C), AND (D), AND AMEND, FURTHER, SUBSECTION (A) OF SECTION THIRTEEN, SECTIONS FOURTEEN AND NINETEEN, ARTICLE THREE OF CHAPTER TWO; SECTIONS TWENTY-FOUR, THIRTY-ONE AND THIRTY-FIVE, ARTICLE ONE, SECTION THIRTY-EIGHT, ARTICLE TWO OF CHAPTER THREE; AND SECTION SIXTY-SEVEN OF ARTICLE ONE AND SUBSECTION (B) OF SECTION SEVENTY OF ARTICLE TWO OF CHAPTER FOUR OF ACT NUMBERED THIRTY-NINE HUNDRED AND NINETY-TWO, AS AMENDED BY COMMONWEALTH ACT NUMBERED ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE, AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY COMMONWEALTH ACTS NUMBERED FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX AND SIX HUNDRED AND FIFTY-TWO.**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. Whenever the words "Director of Public Works" and "Bureau of Public Works" are used in Act Thirty-nine hundred and ninety-two, as amended, the same shall be substituted by the words "Chief, Motor Vehicles Office" and "Motor Vehicles Office", respectively.

SEC. 2. Subsections (a) and (b) of section three, article two, Chapter one, of Act Numbered Thirty-nine hundred and ninety-two, are hereby amended as follows:

"(a) "Motor vehicles" are all vehicles using the public highways, if propelled by any power other than muscular power, but excepting road rollers, trolley cars, street-sweepers, sprinklers, lawn mowers, bulldozers, graders, and fork-lifts and cranes if not used on public highways or vehicles which run only on rails or tracks, tractors, traction engines of all kinds used exclusively for agricultural purposes."

"Trailers, having any number of wheels, when propelled or intended to be propelled by attachment to a motor vehicle, shall be classified as separate motor vehicle with no power rating."

"(b) "Passenger automobiles" include all pneumatic-tired vehicles of

types similar to those usually known under the following terms: touring car, command car, speedster, roadster, jeep, cycle car (except motor wheel and similar small outfits which are classified with motorcycles), coupe, landaulet, closed car, limousine, cabriolet, sedan, etc.

"Motor vehicles with changed or rebuilt bodies, such as jitney or station wagon, etc., using a chassis of the usual pneumatic-tired passenger automobiles, if their net allowable carrying capacity as determined by the Chief, Motor Vehicles Office does not exceed ten passengers and if they are not used primarily for carrying freight or merchandise.

"The distinction between "passenger truck" and "passenger automobile" shall be that of common usage. Usually a motor vehicle registered for more than ten passengers would be termed a truck. In case of dispute, the Chief, Motor Vehicles Office shall determine the classification to which any special type of motor vehicle belongs".

SEC. 3. Subsections (b) and (d) of section 5, article one, Chapter two of Act Numbered Thirty-nine hundred and ninety-two, are amended to read as follows:

"(b) Any registration of motor vehicles not renewed on or before the last working day of February of each calendar year shall become delinquent and invalid, except when the plates of such motor vehicles are returned to the Motor Vehicles Office in Manila, or to the Office of the District Engineer in the province on or before the last working day of December of the year of issue.

"(d) *Reports of change of motor number or/and factory number.*—No repair or change in a motor vehicle involving the exchanging, elimination, effacing, or replacing of the manufacturer's serial or motor number, or the part or parts upon which such number is stamped shall be made by any owner, proprietor or a garage or repair shop, dealer, or other person or entity without the previous approval of the Chief, Motor Vehicles Office or the District Engineer in the province on penalty of refusal to register, re-register, or transfer said vehicle: *Provided*, however, That application for registration of a motor vehicle the number of which has the trace of having been altered or tampered with, without the necessary previous approval, shall be rejected."

SEC. 4. Subsections (a), (b), (c), (i), (j), (I), (m), and (n) of section seven, article one, Chapter two of Act Numbered Thirty-nine hundred and ninety-two, are hereby amended as follows:

"(a) *Private passenger automobiles; (b) Private trucks; and (c) Private motorcycles or motor wheel attachments.*— Motor vehicles registered under these classifications shall not be used "for hire" under any circumstances, and shall not solicit or accept passenger or freight for pay. Laborers necessary to handle freight on board the private truck are allowed to ride on such truck: *Provided*, however, That seats shall not be installed in the rear compartment thereof: *And provided, further*, That only the number of such laborers, not exceeding ten, which may be needed to handle the kind of freight carried will ride on the truck: *And provided, still further*, That the combined weight of cargo and passengers

does not exceed the registered net capacity of the truck.

"(i) *Hire trucks*.—Motor vehicles registered under this classification shall be allowed to carry freight only. Laborers necessary to handle such freight, are allowed to ride in the truck subject to the same limitations as for private trucks under section seven (b). They may solicit and accept freight at any place, except within a radius of one hundred meters from any "competing public station" designated as such by the Public Service Commission: *Provided, however,* That a *bona fide* customer may engage a "hire truck" to haul and deliver definitely described shipments addressed to the customer when such shipments have been discharged at such stations by a public service vehicle, awaiting orders of the customer. Applications for registration under this classification must be accompanied by a certificate of public convenience or a special permit issued by the Public Service Commission.

"(j) *Undertakers, truck for contractor and truck for customs broker or customs agent*.—These are separate designations of "hire trucks" for motor hearses, for contracting business and for the broker's business, respectively: *Provided,* That applications for registration of trucks for contractors and trucks for customs brokers and customs agents shall be accompanied by a certificate of public convenience or a special permit issued by the Public Service Commission.

"(l) *Government automobiles: (m) Government trucks: (n) Government motorcycles*.—Motor vehicles owned or controlled by the Government of the Philippines or any of its political subsidiaries, shall be registered under these classifications. Motor vehicles owned or controlled by Government corporations and by Government employees or by foreign governments are not considered Government motor vehicles."

SEC. 5. Section eight, article two, Chapter two, of Act Numbered Thirty-nine hundred and ninety-two, as amended by Commonwealth Acts Numbered One hundred and twenty-three, Five hundred and fifty-six and Six hundred and fifty-two, is further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 8. *Schedule of registration fees*.—(a) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Act, each application for registration of vehicles using motor fuel other than diesel oil, shall be accompanied by an annual registration fee in accordance with the following tariff.

"(b) Private automobiles with pneumatic rubber tires, with passenger capacity of less than seven passengers, the sum of sixty-five pesos; private automobiles with pneumatic tires with passenger capacity of from seven to ten passengers, the sum of eighty-five pesos.

"The registered passenger capacity of passenger automobiles operated for hire or for private use shall be determined as follows:

"1. For each adult passenger, not less than a horizontal rectangular area, including seat and foot space, 40 cm. wide and 60 cm. long, except in the front seat which shall allow 50 cm. wide for the operator.

"2. For each half-passenger, not less than a horizontal rectangular area, including seat and foot space, 20 cm. wide by 60 cm. long, provided, that each continuous row of seats shall not be allowed more than one half-passenger.

"(c) Private motor trucks, passenger buses and trailers with pneumatic rubber tires, the sum of five pesos per hundred kilograms of maximum allowable gross weight or fraction thereof: *Provided*, That upon trucks owned by duly licensed persons, firms, or associations engaged in creative or productive industries the existing rate of four pesos shall be imposed.

"(d) Private motor trucks, passenger buses and trailers with solid rubber tires or with part solid and part pneumatic rubber tires, the sum of seven pesos per hundred kilograms of maximum allowable gross weight or fraction thereof.

"(e) Private motor vehicles with metallic tires in whole or in part, the sum of fifteen pesos per hundred kilograms of maximum allowable gross weight or fraction thereof.

"(f) Private motorcycles of two or three wheels and bicycles with motor attachments, the sum of fifteen pesos.

"(g) The fee for registration of diesel-oil-consuming" vehicles shall be fifty per cent more than that of vehicles using motor fuel other than diesel oil. The fee for registration of motor vehicles for hire shall be sixty per cent more than the fees prescribed for private motor vehicles.

"(h) *Dealers.*—No fees shall be charged for the general registration of motor vehicles contemplated under the dealers classifications, but in lieu thereof they shall pay the special fees for dealer's number plates provided hereinafter.

"(i) Registration under the 'Government motor vehicle' classification shall be free of charge, on request of the chief of bureau or office concerned.

"(j) Tourists bringing their own motor vehicles to the Philippines, shall be exempt from payment of registration fees under this Act during but not after the first thirty days of their sojourn.

"After the first thirty days, they shall be subject to the regular fees, except that the Chief, Motor Vehicles Office, or his deputies may, in his discretion, require payment of fees in advance for only the fractional part of a year for which the tourist expects to remain in the Philippines.

"(k) Motor vehicles not intended to be operated or used upon any public highway or motor vehicles operated on highways not constructed or maintained by the Government, or to be placed out of service for any other reason, shall be exempt from payment of the registration :fees, provided in this Act: *Provided, however*, That no refund, credit for, or

reimbursement of registration fees or parts thereof shall be made to any owner on account of a motor vehicle which is taken out of service subsequent to the payment of such registration fees.

"(I) The maximum allowable gross weight of a motor truck, passenger bus, or trailer, upon which to compute the registration fee thereof, shall be obtained by regulations to be promulgated by the Chief, Motor Vehicles Office. The Chief, Motor Vehicles Office shall upon passage of this Act and from time to time thereafter as the needs of the service may require, prepare suitable tables of maximum allowable loads per wheel for different sizes and kinds of tires and shall issue regulations for the proper use thereof subject to the approval of the Secretary of Public Works and Communications, as provided in section four (a) hereof. The registration fees provided in this Act for trucks may be payable in two equal installments, the first to be paid on or before the last working day of February, and the second to be paid on or before the last working day of August."

SEC. 6. A new section to be known as section eight-A is hereby provided as follows:

*"SEC. 8-A. Permissible weights and dimensions of vehicles in highway traffic.*

"(a) The maximum gross weight and measurement of motor vehicles, unladen or with load, permissible on public highways shall be as specified hereunder, subject to such regulations as the Secretary of Public Works and Communications may promulgate as the conditions of the public highways may determine and as the needs of the service may require from time to time.

"Permissible maximum weights:

1. Per most heavily loaded wheel	3,600 kilograms
2. Per most heavily loaded axle	8,000 kilograms
3. Per most heavily loaded axle group (the two axles of the group being at least one meter and less than two meters apart)	14,500 kilograms

"An axle weight shall be the total weight transmitted to the road by all wheels the centers of which can be included between the parallel transverse vertical planes one meter apart extending across the full width of the vehicle.

"Overall width	2.5 meters
"Overall height	4.0 meters