

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 639

To amend the definition of commercial motor vehicle in section 31101 of title 49, United States Code, to exclude certain farm vehicles, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 19, 2009

Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. COBURN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the definition of commercial motor vehicle in section 31101 of title 49, United States Code, to exclude certain farm vehicles, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. DEFINITION OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHI-**
4 **CLE.**

5 Section 31101(1)(A) of title 49, United States Code,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 “(A)(i) except as provided in clause (ii),
8 has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross vehi-

1 ele weight of at least 10,001 pounds, whichever
2 is greater; or

3 “(ii) in the case of a vehicle with farm-des-
4 ignated license plates that is engaged in the
5 transportation of agricultural commodities or
6 farm supplies or a vehicle that is controlled by
7 a farmer and used to transport agricultural
8 commodities or farm supplies to or from a
9 farm, has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross
10 vehicle weight the greater of which exceeds the
11 minimum weight of a commercial motor vehicle
12 established by the State in which it is being op-
13 erated;”.

14 **SEC. 2. PRESERVATION OF GRANTS FOR STATES THAT IN-**
15 **CREASE THE MINIMUM WEIGHT FOR COM-**
16 **MERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES.**

17 Section 31102 of title 49, United States Code, is
18 amended—

19 (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
20 section (f); and

21 (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(e) PRESERVATION OF GRANTS FOR STATES THAT
24 INCREASE THE MINIMUM WEIGHT FOR COMMERCIAL
25 MOTOR VEHICLES.—The Secretary may not withhold

1 grant funding from a State under this section solely be-
2 cause the State authorizes drivers of vehicles engaged in
3 the transportation of agricultural commodities or farm
4 supplies that have a gross vehicle weight of more than
5 10,000 pounds and less than 26,001 pounds, to operate
6 without complying with Federal regulations relating to
7 commercial motor vehicles.”.

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