

SENATE BILL NO. 128—COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND HOMELAND SECURITY

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION’S
SUBCOMMITTEE TO STUDY THE
PROTECTION OF NATURAL TREASURES)

FEBRUARY 21, 2007

Referred to Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security

SUMMARY—Prohibits certain vehicles from traveling on that portion of State Route 159 that is designated as a scenic route and requiring the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers along that portion of the Route. (BDR 43-211)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~fornitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to transportation; prohibiting certain vehicles from traveling on that portion of State Route 159 that is designated as a scenic route; requiring the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers along that portion of the Route; requiring the Department to consider certain factors and to receive approval from the Board of Directors of the Department before reducing the maximum weight limits on certain highways; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

- 1 This bill prohibits oversized vehicles which do not have a point of origin or
- 2 destination on that portion of State Route 159 that is designated as a scenic route to
- 3 travel on that portion of the Route and requires the Department of Transportation to
- 4 erect suitable markers along that portion of the Route. Further, this bill requires the
- 5 Department to consider certain factors and receive approval from the Board of
- 6 Directors of the Department before reducing the maximum weight limits for
- 7 oversized vehicles as prescribed by existing law on a highway under its jurisdiction.
- 8 (NRS 484.745, 484.748, 484.7485)



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

1. Because of its unique character, the restrictions imposed on certain large vehicles pursuant to this act are necessary for the protection of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area and the safety and protection of the residents and visitors who enjoy the scenic beauty and recreational opportunities of the Red Rock Canyon.

2. The enactment of this act is not intended to encourage the imposition of similar restrictions on other designated scenic routes in this State.

Sec. 2. Chapter 484 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 3 and 4 of this act.

Sec. 3. 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, it is unlawful for an operator or driver of any vehicle which:

(a) Is registered pursuant to the provisions of NRS 706.801 to 706.861, inclusive; or

(b) Has a declared gross weight in excess of 26,000 pounds, and which does not have a point of origin or destination on State Route 159 from mile post 0.0 to mile post 14.0 to travel on such Route.

2. The Department of Transportation shall erect suitable markers along State Route 159 and may locate them at such points as the Department of Transportation deems appropriate.

3. This section does not apply to:

(a) An authorized emergency vehicle;

(b) A vehicle being used in the service of a public utility as defined in NRS 704.020;

(c) A vehicle being used by a licensed hauler of garbage and refuse as defined in NRS 484.748;

(d) A school bus; or

(e) A charter bus.

Sec. 4. 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 484.752, before the Department of Transportation reduces the maximum weight limits as prescribed in NRS 484.745, 484.748 and 484.7485 on a highway under its jurisdiction, the Department of Transportation shall:

(a) Consider:

(1) The average number of vehicles traveling on the highway each day;

(2) The number of vehicles that have a declared gross weight in excess of 26,000 pounds that are included in the average number pursuant to subparagraph (1);



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- 1 (3) *The availability of alternate routes to the highway;*
2 (4) *The impact on each alternate route of increased traffic*
3 *consisting of vehicles that have a declared gross weight in excess*
4 *of 26,000 pounds;*
5 (5) *The number of traffic accidents involving a vehicle that*
6 *has a declared gross weight in excess of 26,000 pounds on the*
7 *highway in the past 5 years;*
8 (6) *Any projected adverse economic or environmental*
9 *impact resulting from reducing the maximum weight limits on the*
10 *highway; and*
11 (7) *Any other factors the Department of Transportation*
12 *deems appropriate; and*
13 (b) *Present such considerations to the Board of Directors of*
14 *the Department of Transportation to receive the Board's approval*
15 *to reduce the maximum weight limits pursuant to this section.*

