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AN ACT

RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; REGULATING LANE TRAVEL FOR TRUCK  
TRACTORS; PROVIDING PENALTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code,  
Section 66-7-376 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

"66-7-376. MULTIPLE LANE ROADWAYS--REQUIRED LANE TRAVEL  
FOR TRUCK TRACTORS--TWO-WAY LEFT-TURN LANES.--

A. Whenever any roadway has been divided into two  
or more clearly marked lanes for traffic, the following  
requirements, in addition to all consistent requirements  
within the Motor Vehicle Code, shall apply:

(1) a truck tractor shall be driven as  
nearly as practicable entirely within a single lane;

(2) a truck tractor shall not be moved from  
the lane until the driver has first ascertained that the  
movement can be made with safety and then given a signal, not  
less than the last one hundred feet traveled by the truck  
tractor, of the driver's intention to change lanes;

(3) upon a roadway that is divided into  
three lanes, a truck tractor shall not be driven in the  
center lane except:

(a) when overtaking and passing another  
vehicle where the roadway is clearly visible and the center

1 lane is clear of traffic within a safe distance;

2 (b) in preparation for a left turn; or

3 (c) where the center lane is at the  
4 time allocated exclusively to traffic moving in the direction  
5 the truck tractor is proceeding and is signposted to give  
6 notice of the allocation;

7 (4) a truck tractor shall not be driven in  
8 the left lane of a roadway except when overtaking and passing  
9 another vehicle; provided, however, that this paragraph shall  
10 not prohibit driving in the left lane when traffic  
11 conditions, flow or road configuration, such as the potential  
12 of merging traffic, require the use of the left lane to  
13 maintain safe traffic conditions; and provided further that  
14 this paragraph shall not prohibit driving in the left lane of  
15 a roadway within the city limits of a municipality or upon a  
16 county road as long as such roadway is not part of the  
17 national system of interstate and defense highways; and

18 (5) official signs may be erected directing  
19 slow-moving traffic to use a designated lane or designating  
20 those lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular  
21 direction regardless of the center of the roadway, and  
22 drivers of vehicles shall obey the directions of every such  
23 sign.

24 B. A two-way left-turn lane is a lane near the  
25 center of the highway set aside for use by vehicles making

1 left turns in both directions from or into the roadway.  
2 Two-way left-turn lanes shall be designated by distinctive  
3 roadway markings consisting of parallel double yellow lines,  
4 interior line dashed and exterior line solid, on each side of  
5 the lane. A vehicle shall not be driven in a designated  
6 two-way left-turn lane except when preparing for or making a  
7 left turn from or into a roadway. Vehicles turning left from  
8 the roadway shall not be driven in the two-way left-turn lane  
9 for more than two hundred feet while preparing for and making  
10 the turn. A vehicle turning left onto the roadway may  
11 utilize the two-way left-turn lane as a staging area by  
12 stopping and waiting for traffic proceeding in the same  
13 direction to clear before merging into the adjacent lanes of  
14 travel. A left turn shall not be made from any other lane  
15 where a two-way left-turn lane has been designated; provided,  
16 however, that this section shall not prohibit driving across  
17 a two-way left-turn lane when moving from a service drive  
18 onto such marked roadway."

19 SECTION 2. Section 66-8-116 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1978,  
20 Chapter 35, Section 524, as amended) is amended to read:

21 "66-8-116. PENALTY ASSESSMENT MISDEMEANORS--DEFINITION--  
22 -SCHEDULE OF ASSESSMENTS.--

23 A. As used in the Motor Vehicle Code and the Boat  
24 Act, "penalty assessment misdemeanor" means violation of any  
25 of the following listed sections of the NMSA 1978 for which,

1 except as provided in Subsections D through F of this  
2 section, the listed penalty assessment is established:

3	COMMON NAME OF OFFENSE	SECTION VIOLATED	PENALTY
4			ASSESSMENT
5	Vehicles subject to		
6	registration	66-3-1	\$ 50.00
7	Improper display of		
8	registration plate	66-3-18	25.00
9	Failure to notify of		
10	change of name or address	66-3-23	25.00
11	Lost or damaged registration,		
12	plate or title	66-3-24	25.00
13	Horseless carriage		
14	registration	66-3-27	25.00
15	Transfer of registration		
16	and title	66-3-103	25.00
17	Expiration of dealer		
18	plates	66-3-403	25.00
19	Special registration		
20	plates	66-3-409, 66-3-412.1,	
21		66-3-413, 66-3-415,	
22		66-3-417, 66-3-419,	
23		66-3-421, 66-3-422,	
24		66-3-424.4, 66-3-424.5,	
25		66-3-424.7, 66-3-424.9,	

1		66-3-424.13, 66-3-424.16	
2		and 66-3-424.28	75.00
3	Bicycle laws	66-3-701	
4		through	
5		66-3-707	50.00
6	No license display	66-5-16	25.00
7	Failure to change		
8	address or name on		
9	license	66-5-22	25.00
10	Permitting unauthorized		
11	minor to drive	66-5-40	50.00
12	Permitting unauthorized		
13	person to drive	66-5-41	25.00
14	Failure to obey sign	66-7-104	25.00
15	Failure to obey signal	66-7-105	25.00
16	Pedestrian signs and		
17	signals	66-7-106	
18		through	
19		66-7-108	25.00
20	Speeding	66-7-301	
21	(1) up to and including		
22	ten miles an hour		
23	over the speed limit		25.00
24	(2) from eleven up to		
25	and including fifteen		

1	miles an hour		
2	over the speed limit		30.00
3	(3) from sixteen up to		
4	and including twenty		
5	miles an hour over the		
6	speed limit		65.00
7	(4) from twenty-one up to		
8	and including twenty-five		
9	miles an hour		
10	over the speed limit		100.00
11	(5) from twenty-six up to		
12	and including thirty		
13	miles an hour over the		
14	speed limit		125.00
15	(6) from thirty-one up to		
16	and including thirty-five		
17	miles an hour over the		
18	speed limit		150.00
19	(7) more than thirty-five		
20	miles an hour over the		
21	speed limit		200.00
22	Unfastened safety belt	66-7-372	25.00
23	Child not in restraint device		
24	or seat belt	66-7-369	25.00
25	Minimum speed	66-7-305	25.00

1	Speeding	66-7-306	25.00
2	Improper starting	66-7-324	25.00
3	Improper backing	66-7-354	25.00
4	Improper lane	66-7-308	25.00
5	Improper lane	66-7-313	25.00
6	Improper lane	66-7-316	25.00
7	Improper lane	66-7-317	25.00
8	Improper lane	66-7-319	25.00
9	Improper passing	66-7-309	
10		through	
11		66-7-312	25.00
12	Improper passing	66-7-315	25.00
13	Controlled access		
14	violation	66-7-320	25.00
15	Controlled access		
16	violation	66-7-321	25.00
17	Improper turning	66-7-322	25.00
18	Improper turning	66-7-323	25.00
19	Improper turning	66-7-325	25.00
20	Following too closely	66-7-318	25.00
21	Failure to yield	66-7-328	
22		through	
23		66-7-331	25.00
24	Failure to yield	66-7-332	50.00
25	Failure to yield	66-7-332.1	25.00

1	Pedestrian violation	66-7-333	
2		through	
3		66-7-340	25.00
4	Failure to stop	66-7-342	
5		and 66-7-344	
6		through	
7		66-7-346	25.00
8	Railroad-highway grade		
9	crossing violation	66-7-341	
10		and 66-7-343	150.00
11	Passing school bus	66-7-347	100.00
12	Failure to signal	66-7-325	
13		through	
14		66-7-327	25.00
15	Riding on motorcycles	66-7-355	100.00
16	Video screens in		
17	automobiles	66-7-358	25.00
18	Driving on mountain		
19	highways	66-7-359	25.00
20	Coasting prohibited	66-7-360	25.00
21	Animals on highway at		
22	night	66-7-363	50.00
23	Failure to secure load	66-7-407	100.00
24	Operation without oversize-		
25	overweight permit	66-7-413	50.00

1	Transport of reducible		
2	load with special		
3	permit more than six miles		
4	from a border crossing	66-7-413	100.00
5	Driving while license		
6	administratively		
7	suspended	66-5-39.2	25.00
8	Improper equipment	66-3-801	
9		through	
10		66-3-840	
11		and 66-3-842	
12		through	
13		66-3-851	50.00
14	Improper equipment	66-3-901	50.00
15	Improper emergency		
16	signal	66-3-853	
17		through	
18		66-3-857	25.00
19	Minor on motorcycle		
20	without helmet	66-7-356	300.00
21	Operation interference	66-7-357	50.00
22	Littering	66-7-364	300.00
23	Improper parking	66-7-349	
24		through	
25		66-7-352	

1		and 66-7-353	25.00
2	Improper parking	66-3-852	25.00
3	Riding in or towing		
4	occupied house trailer	66-7-366	25.00
5	Improper opening of doors	66-7-367	25.00
6	No slow-moving vehicle		
7	emblem or flashing		
8	amber light	66-3-887	25.00
9	Open container-first		
10	violation	66-8-138	25.00
11	Texting while driving-		
12	(1) first violation	66-7-374	25.00
13	(2) second and subsequent		
14	violation		50.00
15	Using a handheld mobile		
16	communication device		
17	while driving a		
18	commercial motor vehicle	66-7-375	
19	(1) first violation		25.00
20	(2) second and subsequent		
21	violation		50.00
22	Improper use of travel lane	66-7-376	250.00.

23 B. The term "penalty assessment misdemeanor" does  
24 not include a violation that has caused or contributed to the  
25 cause of an accident resulting in injury or death to a

1 person.

2 C. When an alleged violator of a penalty  
3 assessment misdemeanor elects to accept a notice to appear in  
4 lieu of a notice of penalty assessment, a fine imposed upon  
5 later conviction shall not exceed the penalty assessment  
6 established for the particular penalty assessment misdemeanor  
7 and probation imposed upon a suspended or deferred sentence  
8 shall not exceed ninety days.

9 D. The penalty assessment for speeding in  
10 violation of Paragraph (5) of Subsection A of Section  
11 66-7-301 NMSA 1978 is twice the penalty assessment  
12 established in Subsection A of this section for the  
13 equivalent miles per hour over the speed limit.

14 E. Upon a second conviction for operation without  
15 a permit for excessive size or weight pursuant to Section  
16 66-7-413 NMSA 1978, the penalty assessment shall be two  
17 hundred fifty dollars (\$250). Upon a third or subsequent  
18 conviction, the penalty assessment shall be five hundred  
19 dollars (\$500).

20 F. Upon a second conviction for transport of a  
21 reducible load with a permit for excessive size or weight  
22 pursuant to Subsection N of Section 66-7-413 NMSA 1978 more  
23 than six miles from a port-of-entry facility on the border  
24 with Mexico, the penalty assessment shall be five hundred  
25 dollars (\$500). Upon a third or subsequent conviction, the

1 penalty assessment shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000)."

2 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
3 provisions of this act is July 1, 2023. \_\_\_\_\_

SB 102  
Page 12

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