
SENATE BILL NO. 264—SENATORS PICKARD; BUCK, GOICOECHEA
AND HARDY

MARCH 17, 2021

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Prohibits trucks and truck-tractors over a certain weight from using the left lane on highways with two lanes in the same direction of travel except to pass when no other traffic will be impeded, from using the left lane at all on highways with three or more lanes in the same direction, and from using a high-occupancy vehicle lane when there is only one such lane. (BDR 43-962)

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 ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to traffic laws; prohibiting trucks and truck-tractors over a certain weight from using the left lane on two-lane same directional highways; prohibiting trucks and truck-tractors over a certain weight from using the left lane on three-lane same directional highways; prohibiting trucks and truck-tractors over a certain weight from using a lane designated for the preferential or exclusive use of high-occupancy vehicles when there is only one such lane; making exceptions under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

1 Existing law authorizes the Department of Transportation to designate a lane on
2 a highway for the preferential or exclusive use of high-occupancy vehicles. (NRS
3 484A.460) **Section 1** of this bill prohibits the driver of a truck or truck-tractor with
4 a declared gross weight in excess of 18,000 pounds from using such a lane if the
5 highway has only one lane traveling in the same direction for the preferential or
6 exclusive use of high-occupancy vehicles.

7 **Section 2** of this bill prohibits the driver of a truck or truck-tractor with a
8 declared gross weight in excess of 18,000 pounds from using: (1) the left lane on a



9 highway with two lanes for traffic traveling in the same direction except when
10 overtaking and passing another vehicle; and (2) the extreme left lane on a highway
11 with three or more clearly marked lanes for traveling in the same direction. **Section**
12 **2** also makes exceptions under certain circumstances.

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

1 **Section 1.** NRS 484A.460 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 484A.460 1. The Department of Transportation, with respect
4 to highways under its jurisdiction, may designate a lane on a
5 highway for the preferential or exclusive use of high-occupancy
6 vehicles. *If only one lane of a highway traveling in the same*
7 *direction is designated for such preferential or exclusive use, the*
8 *driver of a truck or truck-tractor with a declared gross weight in*
9 *excess of 18,000 pounds shall not use the lane.*

10 2. The Department of Transportation shall, for each lane that it
11 designates pursuant to this section for the use of high-occupancy
12 vehicles:

13 (a) Determine the conditions for use of the lane, including,
14 without limitation:

- 15 (1) The number of occupants required per vehicle; and
16 (2) The hours of the day that the use of the lane is restricted.

17 (b) Place and maintain signs and other official traffic-control
18 devices that:

19 (1) Identify the lane as designated for the use of high-
20 occupancy vehicles; and

21 (2) Advise operators of vehicles of the required conditions
22 for the use of the lane.

23 3. The Department of Transportation may adopt regulations
24 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

25 4. As used in this section, "high-occupancy vehicle" means:

- 26 (a) A vehicle that is transporting more than one person;
27 (b) A motorcycle, regardless of the number of passengers;
28 (c) A bus, regardless of the number of passengers; and
29 (d) Any other vehicle designated by regulation.

30 **Sec. 2.** Chapter 484B of NRS is hereby amended by adding
31 thereto a new section to read as follows:

32 *1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, on a highway*
33 *that has two clearly marked lanes for traffic traveling in the same*
34 *direction, the driver of a truck or truck-tractor with a declared*
35 *gross weight in excess of 18,000 pounds shall not use the left lane*
36 *at any time except when overtaking and passing another vehicle*



1 *proceeding in the same direction under the laws governing such*
2 *movements.*

3 2. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, on a highway*
4 *that has three or more clearly marked lanes for traveling in the*
5 *same direction, the driver of a truck or truck-tractor with a*
6 *declared gross weight in excess of 18,000 pounds shall not drive in*
7 *the extreme left lane.*

8 3. *The provisions of this section do not apply:*

9 (a) *To a driver operating a truck or truck-tractor with a*
10 *declared gross weight in excess of 18,000 pounds that is:*

11 (1) *Preparing for a left turn at an intersection;*

12 (2) *Traveling in a lane designated for the use of high-*
13 *occupancy vehicles in accordance with the provisions of NRS*
14 *484A.460; or*

15 (3) *Engaged in the construction, maintenance or repair of*
16 *a highway, including, without limitation, the removal of snow.*

17 (b) *When traffic conditions, inclement weather, obstructions*
18 *or hazards make it necessary to drive in the left lane.*

19 (c) *When compliance with an official traffic control device or*
20 *directions given by a peace officer make it necessary to drive in the*
21 *left lane.*

22 (d) *To the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle in the*
23 *course of his or her official duties.*

