

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE BILL

## No. 1022

Session of  
1987

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INTRODUCED BY HUTCHINSON, APRIL 6, 1987

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AS RE-REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, NOVEMBER 9, 1987

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## AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, further providing for ~~tires and bumpers~~ STANDARDS <—  
3 FOR MOTOR VEHICLES WITH MODIFIED CHASSIS.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. ~~Section~~ SECTIONS 4103 AND 4525 of Title 75 of the <—  
7 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes ~~is~~ ARE amended by adding a <—  
8 subsection to read:

9 § 4103. PROMULGATION OF VEHICLE EQUIPMENT STANDARDS. <—

10 \* \* \*

11 (F) STANDARDS FOR MODIFIED VEHICLES.--THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
12 PROMULGATE REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR THE APPROVAL  
13 FOR OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES WITH MODIFIED CHASSIS. THE  
14 REGULATIONS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, VEHICLE HEIGHT  
15 AND WEIGHT, SUSPENSION SYSTEMS, BUMPERS, HEADLIGHTS AND OTHER  
16 LIGHTING EQUIPMENT, BRAKES AND BRAKE LINES, FUEL TANKS AND ANY  
17 OTHER AREAS THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS APPROPRIATE FOR THE SAFE

1 OPERATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES WITH MODIFIED CHASSIS.

2 § 4525. Tire equipment and traction surfaces.

3 \* \* \*

4 (d.1) Tire width.--

5 (1) It is unlawful for any person to operate or move, or  
6 cause or permit to be moved, any vehicle with tires that  
7 extend beyond the body line of the vehicle. ~~The vehicle body~~ <—  
8 ~~line shall not be extended by permanent modifications or~~  
9 ~~alterations to the manufacturer specified wheel wells unless~~  
10 ~~a "reconstructed" title is issued in accordance with section~~  
11 ~~1103(g) (relating to specially constructed or reconstructed~~  
12 ~~vehicles).~~ The installation of add-on fender flares, other  
13 than flares installed by the original manufacturer, in order  
14 to extend the body line is ~~prohibited.~~ PERMITTED IN <—  
15 ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENTAL REGULATIONS.

16 (2) This subsection does not apply to any vehicle which  
17 is operated under a permit issued in accordance with section  
18 4969 (relating to permit for movement of vehicles with  
19 oversize wheels and tires) or to vehicles registered as  
20 street rods.

21 \* \* \*

22 Section 2. Section 4536 of Title 75 is amended to read:

23 § 4536. Bumpers.

24 (a) General rule.--No person shall operate any vehicle upon  
25 a highway without bumpers of a type specified by regulations of  
26 the department in both the front and rear unless the vehicle was  
27 originally designed and manufactured to be used without bumpers.

28 (b) Height restriction.--

29 ~~(1)~~ No person shall operate any vehicle upon a highway <—  
30 which has been modified by reason of alternation of its

altitude from the ground if its bumpers, when level to the ground, measured to any point on the lower edge of the main horizontal bumper bar, exclusive of any bumper guards, do not fall within the allowable limits as listed in the following chart:

Registration type	Front Bumper Height		Rear Bumper Height	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Passenger cars	16 inch	20 inch	16 inch	20 inch
Class 1 truck	16 inch	24 inch	16 inch	26 inch
Class 2 truck	16 inch	27 inch	16 inch	29 inch
Class 3 truck	16 inch	28 inch	16 inch	30 inch

(2) Trucks in Classes 4 through 25 shall meet the same requirements for front bumper height as Class 3 trucks. Rear end protection shall be afforded as required in 49 C.F.R. § 393.86 (relating to rear end protection).

(3) If the bumper height, relative to the frame rail, has been altered, or if a vehicle was not originally equipped with a front or rear bumper, or a supplemental bumper has been added, or if the manufacturer specified bumper has been replaced with a bumper not identical to the manufacturer specified bumper, then the height measurement in paragraph (1) shall be made to the bottom of the frame rail. UNLESS THAT VEHICLE CONFORMS TO PROMULGATED DEPARTMENTAL STANDARDS.

(c) Exception.--This section shall not apply to any special mobile equipment [or], implement of husbandry or farm truck that is not so equipped by the original manufacturer.

Section 3. This act shall take effect in 180 days.