

As vehicles have gotten larger and heavier, many vehicles now fall into the current definition of an intrastate commercial motor vehicle that have historically not been considered commercial vehicles such as pickup trucks, small step vans, small trailers, etc. One of the Alaska Trucking Associations legislative priorities is to change the definition of an intrastate commercial vehicle to reduce the regulatory burden on small businesses.

For purposes of commercial vehicle regulation and inspection, HB271 raises the weight threshold on intra state commercial vehicles from 10,000 pounds, Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) to 14,000 pounds GVWR for inspection and safety regulation purposes. This is aimed at the small contractors, i.e. lawn care, carpenters, plumbing & heating, small delivery vehicles and pilot cars.

1. Pick-up trucks and small step vans are getting larger and heavier and are bumping up over the current 10,000 pounds GVWR becoming, by definition, a commercial vehicle for inspection and safety regulation purposes.
2. Pilot cars are those vehicles that accompany oversize loads to serve as an extension of the warning system for the oversize load and their work is almost always "intra state" and would fall under this legislation.
3. This bump causes the driver to obtain a medical certification, complete daily vehicle inspection reports, perform or have performed annual inspections, the vehicle must submit several other items to the state DOT to be in compliance.
4. When over the 10,000 pound GVWR threshold, these vehicles are subject to Federal regulations that have been adopted into the Alaska Administrative Code.
5. When passed, this bill will exclude these commercial vehicles that are no more than 14,000 pound GVWR from the unnecessary regulation.
6. This change does not change the commercial status of these intrastate vehicles for purposes of registration with the Division of Motor Vehicles and therefore there is no fiscal impact on the state.
7. These vehicles do not need that level of scrutiny as typically they are operating in a limited geographical area and are not subject to the wear and tear that other larger commercial vehicles experience.