



# LAWS OF ALASKA

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**Chapter No.**  
48

## AN ACT

Relating to the regulation of commercial vehicles; relating to the temporary registration of out-of-state commercial vehicles; relating to registration fees for commercial vehicles and for certain noncommercial pick-up trucks and vans; and providing for an effective date.

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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1

**Approved by the Governor:** May 22, 1998

**Actual Effective Date:** Sections 18 and 22 take effect May 23, 1998; section 23 takes effect January 1, 1999; remainder of Act takes effect July 1, 1998

AN ACT

1 Relating to the regulation of commercial vehicles; relating to the temporary registration of out-  
2 of-state commercial vehicles; relating to registration fees for commercial vehicles and for  
3 certain noncommercial pick-up trucks and vans; and providing for an effective date.

4

5 \* **Section 1.** AS 19.10.300 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

6 (g) When operating a commercial motor vehicle or motor vehicle for which  
7 security is required under (a) of this section, a person shall carry proof of insurance  
8 and, if involved in an accident with another person, shall display the proof of insurance  
9 to the other person. In this subsection, "proof of insurance" means a

10 (1) certificate of self-insurance acceptable to the department;

11 (2) card issued by an insurer described in (b)(1) of this section that  
12 indicates that insurance has been procured as required by this section, that contains a  
13 local or toll-free telephone number for filing or receiving claim information, and that

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1 indicates the name and address of the insurer; or

2 (3) copy of the surety bond described in (b)(2) of this section.

3 \* Sec. 2. AS 19.10.310 is amended to read:

4 **Sec. 19.10.310. Commercial motor vehicle safety inspections.** A commercial  
5 motor vehicle may not be operated [AFTER JANUARY 1, 1986] without a certificate  
6 of inspection. An owner or operator of a commercial motor vehicle shall renew a  
7 certificate of inspection at least annually. An owner or operator of a commercial  
8 motor vehicle shall provide proof of annual inspection upon demand of a peace  
9 officer or employee of the department authorized by the commissioner to enforce  
10 this section [SEMI-ANNUALLY AT AN OFFICIAL INSPECTION STATION  
11 UNDER AS 19.10.320. THE OWNER MAY RENEW A CERTIFICATE OF  
12 INSPECTION AT ANY TIME DURING THE OFFICE HOURS OF THE  
13 INSPECTION STATION. AN OWNER OF A COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE  
14 SHALL DISPLAY A CURRENT STICKER OF INSPECTION VISIBLE FROM  
15 OUTSIDE THE VEHICLE IN A LOCATION DETERMINED BY THE  
16 DEPARTMENT].

17 \* Sec. 3. AS 19.10.340 is repealed and reenacted to read:

18 **Sec. 19.10.340. Issuance of certificate of inspection.** A person conducting  
19 annual commercial motor vehicle inspections shall issue a certificate of inspection to  
20 the owner or operator after determining that the motor vehicle is in a safe and  
21 mechanically sound condition as required by law. The owner or operator of a  
22 commercial motor vehicle shall keep a record of the annual inspection of the vehicle.

23 \* Sec. 4. AS 19.10.370 is amended to read:

24 **Sec. 19.10.370. Regulations.** The commissioner shall adopt [PROCEDURAL]  
25 regulations [APPROPRIATE TO ACHIEVE COMPATIBILITY WITH OTHER  
26 WESTERN STATES AND PROCEDURAL REGULATIONS NECESSARY] to  
27 implement AS 19.10.310 - 19.10.399.

28 \* Sec. 5. AS 19.10 is amended by adding a new section to read:

29 **Sec. 19.10.375. Impoundment.** (a) If a peace officer or an employee of the  
30 department authorized by the commissioner to issue citations finds a commercial motor  
31 vehicle in operation without a current and valid certificate of inspection under this

1 chapter, the commercial motor vehicle may be impounded. The commercial motor  
2 vehicle may not be released from impoundment until

3 (1) a current and valid certificate of inspection under this chapter has  
4 been provided for the commercial motor vehicle; and

5 (2) any impoundment fees or charges have been paid.

6 (b) The department may adopt regulations to charge fees to recover costs of  
7 implementation of this section, including costs of impoundment.

8 \* Sec. 6. AS 19.10.399(1) is amended to read:

9 (1) "commercial motor vehicle" means a self-propelled or towed  
10 [MOTOR] vehicle [OR A COMBINATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE AND ONE OR  
11 MORE OTHER VEHICLES]

12 (A) used to transport passengers or property for commercial  
13 purposes;

14 (B) used upon a highway or vehicular way; and

15 (C) that

16 (i) has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross  
17 combination weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds;

18 (ii) is designed to transport more than 15 passengers,  
19 including the driver; or

20 (iii) is used in the transportation of materials found by  
21 the United States Secretary of Transportation to be hazardous for  
22 purposes of 49 U.S.C. 1801 - 1813 (Hazardous Materials Transportation  
23 Act);

24 (D) except that the following vehicles meeting the criteria in  
25 (A) - (C) of this paragraph are not commercial motor vehicles:

26 (i) emergency or fire equipment that is necessary to the  
27 preservation of life or property;

28 (ii) farm vehicles that are controlled and operated by a  
29 farmer; used to transport agricultural products, farm machinery, or farm  
30 supplies to or from that farmer's farm; not used in the operations of a  
31 common or contract motor carrier; and used within 150 miles of the

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1 farmer's farm;

2 (iii) school buses;

3 (iv) vehicles owned and operated by the federal  
4 government unless the vehicle is used to transport property of the  
5 general public for compensation in competition with other persons who  
6 own or operate a commercial motor vehicle subject to AS 19.10.310 -  
7 19.10.399, and except to the extent that regulation of vehicles operated  
8 by the federal government is permitted by federal law; and

9 (v) vehicles used exclusively for purposes other than  
10 commercial purposes;

11 \* Sec. 7. AS 28.10.021(c) is amended to read:

12 (c) An employee of the department who processes an application for  
13 registration or renewal of registration, other than an application received by mail or  
14 an application for registration under AS 28.10.152, shall ask the applicant orally  
15 whether the applicant wishes to execute an anatomical gift or a living will. The  
16 department shall make known to all applicants the procedure for executing a gift under  
17 AS 13.50 (Uniform Anatomical Gifts Act) or a living will under AS 18.12 (Living  
18 Wills and Do Not Resuscitate Orders) by displaying posters in the offices in which  
19 applications are taken, by providing a brochure or other written information to each  
20 person who applies in person or by mail, and, if requested, by providing oral advice.

21 \* Sec. 8. AS 28.10.041(a) is amended to read:

22 (a) The department may refuse to register a vehicle if

23 (1) the application contains a false or fraudulent statement;

24 (2) the applicant fails to furnish information required by the  
25 department;

26 (3) the applicant is not entitled to the issuance of a certificate of title  
27 or registration under this chapter;

28 (4) the vehicle is determined to be mechanically unsafe to be driven or  
29 moved on a highway, vehicular way or area, or other public property in the state;

30 (5) the department has reasonable grounds to believe that the vehicle  
31 was stolen or fraudulently acquired or that the granting of registration would be a fraud

1 against the rightful owner or other person having a valid lien upon the vehicle;

2 (6) the registration of the vehicle has been suspended or revoked for  
3 any reason under the laws of the state;

4 (7) the required fees or taxes have not been paid;

5 (8) the vehicle or applicant fails to comply with this chapter or  
6 regulations implementing this section;

7 (9) the vehicle is without a certificate of inspection required under  
8 AS 19.10.310;

9 (10) except for a vehicle to be registered under AS 28.10.152, the  
10 vehicle is subject to a state-approved emission inspection program adopted under  
11 AS 46.14.400 or 46.14.510, and the vehicle does not meet the standards of that  
12 program, unless the vehicle uses a fuel source that does not primarily emit carbon  
13 monoxide;

14 (11) the applicant fails to certify to the department the existence of a  
15 motor vehicle liability policy that complies with AS 28.22.101 for the vehicle being  
16 registered unless the owner of the vehicle qualifies as a self-insurer under  
17 AS 28.20.400 or is exempted from obtaining liability insurance under AS 28.22.011.

18 \* Sec. 9. AS 28.10.041(c) is amended to read:

19 (c) Except for a vehicle to be registered under AS 28.10.152, the [THE]  
20 department shall refuse to register a vehicle subject to the federal heavy vehicle use  
21 tax required by 26 U.S.C. 4481 (Internal Revenue Code of 1954) if the applicant fails  
22 to furnish proof, in the form prescribed by the United States [U.S.] Secretary of the  
23 Treasury, that the tax has been paid.

24 \* Sec. 10. AS 28.10.108(a) is amended to read:

25 (a) Except for a vehicle registered under AS 28.10.152, a [A] vehicle  
26 required to be registered under this chapter shall be registered under the procedures set  
27 out in this section.

28 \* Sec. 11. AS 28.10.121(a) is amended to read:

29 (a) A nonresident owner of a noncommercial vehicle registered outside the  
30 state is exempt from the registration provisions of this chapter for 60 days after entry  
31 into the state if the vehicle at all times when driven in this state is registered in and

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1 has displayed upon it a currently valid registration plate issued for it by another  
2 jurisdiction. However, if the person becomes gainfully employed in the state or takes  
3 action that indicates an intention to acquire residence in the state, the person shall  
4 comply with the licensing and registration provisions of this chapter within 10 days  
5 of commencement of employment or of taking action that indicates the person's  
6 intention to acquire residence. If the vehicle is a commercial vehicle, the vehicle must  
7 be registered when its commercial use begins except as provided in AS 28.10.011,  
8 [AND] 28.10.131(c), **and 28.10.152.**

9 \* **Sec. 12.** AS 28.10.131(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) **Except for a vehicle to be registered under AS 28.10.152, if** [IF] a  
11 vehicle to be registered under this chapter is previously registered outside the state, the  
12 jurisdiction of registry shall be stated in the application, and the owner shall surrender  
13 to the department all evidence of out-of-state registration in the owner's possession or  
14 control except as provided in this section [OR AS 28.10.141], and the department may  
15 require verification of the vehicle identification number.

16 \* **Sec. 13.** AS 28.10.131(c) is amended to read:

17 (c) **Except as provided in AS 28.10.152, if** [IF] the owner of a commercial  
18 vehicle desires to maintain title in another jurisdiction, the department, when satisfied  
19 that the applicant is temporarily operating in-state and is the lawfully registered owner  
20 of the commercial vehicle, may register the commercial vehicle without issuing a title  
21 and shall type or stamp on the face of the State of Alaska certificate of registration  
22 "No Title Issued."

23 \* **Sec. 14.** AS 28.10 is amended by adding a new section to read:

24 **Sec. 28.10.152. Certificates of temporary registration for certain**  
25 **commercial vehicles.** (a) If a commercial vehicle registered outside the state enters  
26 the state and is not to be registered under AS 28.10.121, 28.10.131, or another  
27 provision of this chapter, it must be temporarily registered under the provisions of this  
28 section.

29 (b) For a commercial vehicle to be registered under this section, the operator  
30 of the vehicle must provide proof of valid registration of the vehicle in another  
31 jurisdiction and any other documentation required by the department by regulation.

1 Upon receipt of the proof of registration, any other required documentation, and  
2 payment of the applicable fee under (d) of this section, the department or the  
3 department's designee may issue a certificate of temporary registration, valid for 30  
4 days, for the commercial vehicle. The certificate of temporary registration must state  
5 the date of issuance and the expiration date.

6 (c) A certificate of temporary registration under this section may be issued for  
7 a commercial vehicle even if a certificate of temporary registration has previously been  
8 issued for the vehicle and has expired.

9 (d) The fee for a certificate of temporary registration under this section is

10 (1) for a truck or a truck tractor, \$350;

11 (2) for a commercial bus, \$350;

12 (3) for all other commercial vehicles, including a trailer or a semi-  
13 trailer, \$10.

14 (e) Fees collected under this section may be appropriated by the legislature to  
15 the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities for programs related to  
16 commercial vehicles, including the administration and operation of weigh stations and  
17 commercial vehicle safety programs.

18 \* Sec. 15. AS 28.10.161(a) is amended to read:

19 (a) Except for a vehicle registered under AS 28.10.152, the [THE]  
20 department, upon registering a vehicle, shall issue the owner one fully reflectorized  
21 registration plate for a trailer or a motorcycle and two fully reflectorized registration  
22 plates for every other vehicle. Except as specifically provided in AS 28.10.181, the  
23 plate or plates must remain with the vehicle as long as the vehicle is subject to  
24 registration under this chapter.

25 \* Sec. 16. AS 28.10.201(a) is amended to read:

26 (a) Except as otherwise provided in (b) of this section or in AS 28.10.131 and  
27 28.10.152 [28.10.141], every owner of a vehicle subject to registration in this state  
28 shall apply for a certificate of title under this chapter.

29 \* Sec. 17. AS 28.10.201(d) is amended to read:

30 (d) Except for vehicles registered under AS 28.10.131(b) or (c) or 28.10.152  
31 [AND 28.10.141], the department may not register a vehicle unless the applicant for

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1 registration at the same time applies for and obtains a certificate of title under this  
2 chapter [,] or presents satisfactory evidence that a certificate of title was previously  
3 issued to the applicant. The department may not accept the application for the original  
4 certificate of registration or title to a vehicle unless the vehicle is in the state at the  
5 time of application. However, the department may accept an application for  
6 registration and certificate of title for a vehicle that is not in the state when the  
7 application is made by a registered and bonded dealer or by a resident of the state  
8 when the application is accompanied by a manufacturer's statement of origin [,] or, in  
9 the case of a used vehicle, when the application is accompanied by a certificate of title  
10 issued in another jurisdiction.

11 \* Sec. 18. AS 28.10.421(b) is amended to read:

12 (b) The biennial registration fees under this subsection are imposed within the  
13 following classifications for [:]

- 14 (1) a passenger vehicle or motor home not used or maintained for the  
15 transportation of persons or property for hire or for other commercial use . . . \$68;
- 16 (2) a pick-up truck or a van not exceeding **10,000** [6,000] pounds  
17 unladen weight and not **registered in the name of a company or business** [USED OR  
18 MAINTAINED FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONS OR PROPERTY FOR  
19 HIRE OR FOR OTHER COMMERCIAL USE] . . . . . \$78;
- 20 (3) a taxicab . . . . . \$138;
- 21 (4) a motor bus with a seating capacity for 20 or more persons and  
22 used exclusively for commercial purposes in the transporting of visitors or  
23 tourists . . . . . \$168;
- 24 (5) a motorcycle or a motor-driven cycle . . . . . \$38;
- 25 (6) a trailer not used or maintained for the transportation of persons or  
26 property for hire or for other commercial use, including, but not limited to, a boat  
27 trailer, baggage trailer, box trailer, utility trailer, house trailer, travel trailer, or a trailer  
28 rented or offered for rent . . . . . \$10.

29 \* Sec. 19. AS 45.75.131(a) is amended to read:

30 (a) A peace officer or an employee of the Department of Transportation and  
31 Public Facilities who is authorized by the commissioner of transportation and public

1 facilities to enforce this chapter may issue a citation to a person who

2 (1) violates a weight, size, or load limitation adopted by the Department  
3 of Transportation and Public Facilities under AS 19.10.060;

4 (2) violates the terms of an overweight or oversize vehicle permit  
5 issued under AS 19.10.060(b);

6 (3) violates a regulation adopted under AS 19.10.060(b) or (c),  
7 AS 28.05.011(a)(2), or [UNDER AS 19.10.060(b) AND] AS 45.75.050(b)(5); or

8 (4) commits a violation identified under AS 45.75.380.

9 \* **Sec. 20.** AS 45.75.380(a) is amended to read:

10 (a) A person commits a violation subject to the penalty specified in  
11 AS 12.55.035(b)(5) if the person does one or more of the following acts:

12 (1) uses or has in possession for the purpose of using for a commercial  
13 purpose specified in AS 45.75.080, sells, offers, or exposes for sale, or hire, or has in  
14 possession for the purpose of selling or hiring, an incorrect weight or measure or a  
15 device or instrument used to or calculated to falsify a weight or measure;

16 (2) uses or has in possession for current use, in buying or selling a  
17 commodity or thing, or for hire or award, or in the computation of a basic charge or  
18 payment for services rendered on the basis of weight or measurement, or in the  
19 determination of weight or measurement when a charge is made for determination, a  
20 weight or measure that has not been tested and sealed by the appropriate authority  
21 within one year, unless

22 (A) the person gives written notice to the appropriate authority  
23 to the effect that the weight or measure is available for examination, or is due  
24 for reexamination, as the case may be;

25 (B) the person receives specific written permission to use the  
26 weight or measure from the appropriate authority; or

27 (C) the weight or measure is exempt from sealing or annual  
28 testing requirements by AS 45.75.080 or by a regulation adopted under  
29 AS 45.75.050;

30 (3) disposes of a rejected or condemned weight or measure in a manner  
31 contrary to law or regulation;

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1 (4) removes from a weight or measure, contrary to law or regulation,  
2 a tag, seal, or mark placed on it by the appropriate authority;

3 (5) sells or offers for sale less than the quantity the person represents  
4 of a commodity, thing, or service;

5 (6) takes more than the quantity the person represents of a commodity,  
6 thing, or service when, as buyer, the person furnished the weight or measure that the  
7 seller used to determine the amount of the commodity, thing, or service;

8 (7) keeps for the purpose of sale, advertises, or offers for sale, or sells  
9 a commodity, thing, or service in a condition or manner contrary to law or regulation;

10 (8) uses in retail trade, except in the preparation of packages put up in  
11 advance of sale and of medical prescriptions, a weight or measure that is not so  
12 positioned that a customer may accurately read, from a position that may reasonably  
13 be assumed by a customer, its indications and observe the weighing or measuring  
14 operation;

15 (9) hinders or obstructs the director, an inspector, a sealer, or a deputy  
16 sealer in the performance of official duties under this chapter;

17 (10) violates a provision of an overweight or oversize vehicle permit  
18 issued under AS 19.10.060(b);

19 (11) violates a weight, load, or size limitation established under  
20 AS 19.10.060 or a regulation adopted under AS 19.05.020, AS 19.10.060  
21 [AS 19.10.060(b)], or AS 45.75.050(b)(5);

22 (12) violates a provision of this chapter or a regulation adopted under  
23 this chapter for which a specific penalty is not prescribed.

24 \* Sec. 21. AS 19.10.320, 19.10.330, 19.10.350, 19.10.360; AS 28.10.011(9), and 28.10.141  
25 are repealed.

26 \* Sec. 22. TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The Department of Administration and the  
27 Department of Transportation and Public Facilities may proceed to adopt regulations necessary  
28 to implement their respective provisions of this Act. The regulations take effect under  
29 AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of secs. 1 - 17 and  
30 19 - 21 of this Act.

31 \* Sec. 23. TEMPORARY REGISTRATION FEES. From January 1, 1999, through

1 March 30, 1999, in lieu of registration fees imposed under AS 28.10.421(c) and (h),

2 (1) biennial vehicle registration fees under this paragraph are imposed and are  
3 based upon the actual unladen weight as established by the manufacturer's advertised weight  
4 or upon the actual weight, which the owner shall furnish, subject to the approval of the  
5 commissioner of administration or the commissioner's representative, for a vehicle, including  
6 a motor vehicle pulling a trailer or semi-trailer, that is registered in the name of a company  
7 or business or is used or maintained for the transportation of passengers for hire, excepting  
8 taxicabs and buses under AS 28.10.421(b), or for the transportation of property for hire or for  
9 other commercial purposes, including a truck, wrecker, tow car, hearse, ambulance, and  
10 tractor, as follows:

- 11 (A) up to and including 5,000 pounds . . . . . \$158;
- 12 (B) more than 5,000 pounds to and including
- 13 12,000 pounds . . . . . \$246;
- 14 (C) more than 12,000 pounds to and including
- 15 18,000 pounds . . . . . \$494;
- 16 (D) more than 18,000 pounds . . . . . \$640;

17 (2) annual registration fees under this paragraph for vehicles used for  
18 commercial purposes and not registered biennially under (1) of this section are imposed and  
19 are based upon the actual unladen weight as established by the manufacturer's advertised  
20 weight or upon the actual weight, which the owner shall furnish, subject to the approval of  
21 the commissioner of administration or the commissioner's representative, as follows:

- 22 (A) up to and including 5,000 pounds . . . . . \$ 80;
- 23 (B) more than 5,000 pounds to and including
- 24 12,000 pounds . . . . . \$124;
- 25 (C) more than 12,000 pounds to and including
- 26 18,000 pounds . . . . . \$248;
- 27 (D) more than 18,000 pounds . . . . . \$321; and

28 (3) a one-time registration fee of \$10 is imposed upon initial registration for  
29 a trailer or semi-trailer used for commercial purposes.

30 \* Sec. 24. Sections 18 and 22 of this Act take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

31 \* Sec. 25. Section 23 of this Act takes effect January 1, 1999.

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1     \* **Sec. 26.** Except as provided in secs. 24 and 25 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1,  
2     1998.