

1           HB262  
2           216981-1  
3           By Representative Allen  
4           RFD: Agriculture and Forestry  
5           First Read: 03-FEB-22

8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, trucks or truck tractors  
9 used by any person to transport forest products  
10 under certain conditions may operate on the public  
11 highways of this state upon payment of the annual  
12 license tax and registration fee.

13 This bill would provide that trucks or truck  
14 tractors used by any person to transport forest  
15 products upon payment of the annual license tax and  
16 registration fee may also be used to transport  
17 forest products management equipment.

18  
19 A BILL  
20  
21 TO BE ENTITLED  
22  
23 AN ACT

24  
25  
26 Relating to motor vehicle; to provide that trucks or  
truck tractors used by any person to transport forest products  
may be used to transport forest products management equipment.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 40-12-248, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended by Act 2021-337 of the 2021 Regular Session is amended to read as follows:

"§40-12-248.

"(a) For each truck or truck tractor using the public highways of this state, annual license taxes and registration fees based on the gross vehicle weight in pounds are imposed and shall be charged. For the purposes of this section, the term "gross vehicle weight" shall mean the empty weight of the truck or truck tractor plus the heaviest load to be carried and, in the case of combinations, shall be deemed to include also the empty weight of the heaviest trailer with which the power unit shall be placed in combination, plus the heaviest load to be carried. No tolerance or margin of error shall be allowable under this section, except as provided in subsection (b).

"(b) For each truck or truck tractor using the public highways of this state, the annual license taxes and registration fees herein imposed shall consist of: (i) the base amount applicable to the truck or truck tractor under the schedule of base amounts set forth in this subsection; plus (ii) the additional amount, if any, applicable to the truck or truck tractor under the schedule of additional amounts set forth in this subsection:

1	Gross Vehicle	
2	Weight in Pounds	Base Amount
3	0 to 8,000	\$10.70
4	8,001 to 10,000	17.50
5	10,001 to 12,000	52.50
6	12,001 to 18,000	85.00
7	18,001 to 26,000	117.50
8	26,001 to 33,000	150.00
9	33,001 to 42,000	260.00
10	42,001 to 55,000	292.50
11	55,001 to 64,000	325.00
12	64,001 to 73,280	357.50
13	73,281 to 80,000	407.50
14	80,001 or over	445.00

15 SCHEDULE OF ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS

16	Gross Vehicle	
17	Weight in Pounds	Additional Amount
18	0 to 8,000	\$2.30
19	8,001 to 10,000	17.50
20	10,001 to 12,000	52.50

1	12,001 to 18,000	85.00
2	18,001 to 26,000	117.50
3	26,001 to 33,000	150.00
4	33,001 to 42,000	260.00
5	42,001 to 55,000	292.50
6	55,001 to 64,000	325.00
7	64,001 to 73,280	357.50
8	73,281 to 80,000	407.50
9	80,001 or over	445.00

"The total amount of the annual license tax and registration fee shall be limited with respect to trucks or truck tractors owned and used by a farmer for transporting farm products or the personal property of the farmer for use on his or her farm to a maximum of thirty dollars (\$30) where the gross vehicle weight of the truck does not exceed 30,000 pounds; to a maximum of eighty-five dollars (\$85) where the gross vehicle weight of the truck exceeds 30,000 pounds, but does not exceed 42,000 pounds; and to a maximum of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) where the gross vehicle weight of the truck or truck tractor is up to and including the class currently designated 80,001 pounds or over. The annual license tax and registration fee shall be limited with respect to trucks owned and used by any person for transporting forest

1 products or forestry harvesting and management equipment from  
2 the point of severance to a sawmill, to a papermill, or to a  
3 concentration yard to a maximum of forty dollars (\$40) where  
4 the gross vehicle weight of the truck does not exceed 30,000  
5 pounds and to a maximum of sixty-five dollars (\$65) where the  
6 gross vehicle weight exceeds 30,000 pounds, but does not  
7 exceed 42,000 pounds. Where the gross vehicle weight of a  
8 truck or truck tractor owned and used by any person for  
9 transporting forest products or forestry harvesting and  
10 management equipment from the point of severance to a sawmill,  
11 to a papermill, or to a concentration yard exceeds 42,000  
12 pounds, the annual license tax and registration fee for the  
13 restricted tags shall consist of the base amount applicable to  
14 the truck tractor under the schedule base amounts set forth in  
15 this subsection, plus the additional amount applicable to the  
16 truck or truck tractor under the schedule of additional  
17 amounts set forth in this subsection.

18 "For purposes of enforcement of farm truck license  
19 tags or of forest products truck license tags, all scaled  
20 weight shall be allowed a tolerance or a margin of error of 10  
21 percent of the true gross or axle weights to allow for any  
22 climatic conditions.

23 "For each truck tractor that is operated by a  
24 certificated motor carrier and that is operated exclusively  
25 within 15 miles of the corporate limits of the incorporated  
26 municipality in which it is customarily domiciled, but not  
27 including vehicles operating beyond the borders of Alabama,

1 and which is registered in the county in which it is  
2 customarily domiciled, a total annual license tax and  
3 registration fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) is imposed  
4 and shall be charged.

5 "The total amount of the annual license tax and reg-  
6 istration fee shall be limited to the following schedule for  
7 all self-propelled campers or house cars, but a self-propelled  
8 camper or a house car whose weight does not exceed 8,000  
9 pounds, shall be subject to Section 40-12-273(b):

10 SCHEDULE OF BASE AMOUNTS

11 Gross Vehicle

12	Weight in Pounds	Base Amount
13	0 to 8,000	\$10.70
14	8,001 to 12,000	25.00
15	12,001 to 18,000	50.00
16	18,001 to 26,000	87.50
17	26,001 to 33,000	137.50
18	33,001 to 42,000	250.00

19 SCHEDULE OF ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS

1	Gross Vehicle	
2	Weight in Pounds	Additional Amount
3	0 to 8,000	\$2.30
4	8,001 to 12,000	25.00
5	12,001 to 18,000	50.00
6	18,001 to 26,000	87.50
7	26,001 to 33,000	137.50
8	33,001 to 42,000	250.00

9                         "(1) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this  
10                         section, a pickup truck as defined in Section 32-8-2, which is  
11                         used for personal or agricultural use and which is not  
12                         operated for commercial purposes, shall be licensed and  
13                         registered based on the gross weight of the vehicle only  
14                         without regard to the heaviest load to be carried including  
15                         the heaviest load to be carried on any trailer used in  
16                         combination with the truck, and, for purposes of this  
17                         subdivision, the term "gross vehicle weight in pounds" as used  
18                         in this subsection means the gross weight of the vehicle only  
19                         without regard to the heaviest load to be carried including  
20                         the heaviest load to be carried on any trailer used in  
21                         combination with the truck.

22                         "(2) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this  
23                         section, a motor vehicle wrecker, commonly known as a tow  
24                         truck, which is used primarily to move, tow, or recover

disabled motor vehicles or used for impoundment purposes, shall be licensed and registered based on the gross vehicle weight of the wrecker only without regard to the gross vehicle weight of any motor vehicle to be towed by the wrecker.

"(c) Every person making application for license under this section to use a truck or truck tractor on the public highways of this state shall be required to file a statement declaring the gross vehicle weight of the truck or truck tractor with the judge of probate, or other county licensing officer, in the county in which the application is made. Upon payment of the applicable motor vehicle license tax or registration fee, the license to use the truck or truck tractor on the public highways of this state shall be limited to the gross vehicle weight so declared by the owner, which shall be deemed to constitute the allowable gross vehicle weight for which the vehicle is licensed.

"After having obtained a license under this section with respect to any truck or truck tractor, the owner thereof may during the then current tax year voluntarily increase the allowable gross vehicle weight for which the vehicle is licensed by filing a new statement declaring the vehicle's gross weight, applying for a new license applicable to the appropriate gross vehicle weight classification, surrendering the license plates or tags previously obtained, and paying the difference between the fees applicable to a license for the higher weight classification desired and the fee in respect of the license so surrendered. The license classification of a

1 truck or truck tractor may not be decreased, however, except  
2 once a year at the time new license tags or plates are  
3 purchased for the truck or truck tractor."

4 Section 2. This act shall become effective  
5 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
6 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.