

February 14, 1963.
Motor Vehicles,
Commerce and Trade.

House File 247

By MILLEN.

Passed House, Date 2-28-63

Passed Senate, Date 4-23-63

Vote: Ayes 93 Nays 0

Vote: Ayes 67 Nays 0

Approved 4-26-63

*Passed on file 3/11
Transportation, etc 3/12
Pass 4/5
Sift com. cal. 4/22*

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code 1962, to provide for the issuance of special mobile equipment certificate and plates.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

- 1 Chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code 1962, is
- 2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:
 - 1 Section 1. A person owning any special mobile equipment as
 - 2 herein defined may make application to the department, upon the
 - 3 appropriate form furnished by the department, for a certificate
 - 4 containing a general distinguishing number and for one or more
 - 5 pairs of special mobile equipment plates or single special
 - 6 mobile equipment plates as appropriate to various types of
 - 7 special mobile equipment. The applicant shall also submit
 - 8 proof of the status of the vehicle or vehicles as special mobile
 - 9 equipment as may reasonably be required by the department.
 - 1 Sec. 2. The department upon granting such application, shall
 - 2 issue to the applicant a certificate containing, but not limited
 - 3 to, the applicant's name and address and the general distinguish-
 - 4 ing number assigned to the applicant and such other information
 - 5 deemed necessary by the department for proper identification.
 - 1 Sec. 3. The department shall also issue special mobile
 - 2 equipment plates as applied for, which shall have displayed
 - 3 thereon the general distinguishing number assigned to the

4 applicant. Each plate or pair of plates so issued shall have
5 displayed thereon the words: Special Mobile Equipment. The fee
6 for each plate or pair of special plates shall be three dollars.

1 Sec. 4. Every special mobile equipment plate issued here-
2 under shall expire at midnight on the thirty-first day of Decem-
3 ber of each year, and a new plate or plates for the ensuing year
4 may be obtained by the person to whom any such expired plate or
5 plates was issued upon application to the department and payment
6 of the fee required by law.

1 Sec. 5. Every person owning special mobile equipment for
2 which a certificate and a plate or plates have been issued shall
3 keep a written record of the vehicles upon which such special
4 mobile equipment plates are used, which record shall be open to
5 inspection by any police officer or any officer or employee of
6 the department.

1 Sec. 6. The certificate and plates issued hereunder shall be
2 for purposes of identification only and shall not constitute a
3 registration as required under the provisions of this chapter.
4 A certificate of title need not be executed when the certificate
5 and plates are issued hereunder and a certificate of title need
6 not be delivered to the purchaser or transferee when special
7 mobile equipment is sold or otherwise disposed of.

EXPLANATION OF HOUSE FILE 247

For several years under previous administrations it has been the practice to issue these special mobile plates for the identification of special mobile equipment. Experience has demonstrated that the use of these plates has aided officers in traffic enforcement and that those in charge of transporting equipment are inclined to move it much more safely when the equipment carries an official identification. Study of the practice of issuing these plates resulted in a question as to the department's authority and it was concluded that specific action by the legislature would be required. Although use of these plates is optional on the part of the owner, it is generally agreed that most equipment owners are interested in safety and have wholeheartedly endorsed the use of these plates.