

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

3 SENATE BILL 127

By: Woods

4
5 AS INTRODUCED

6 An Act relating to combination vehicles; defining
7 term; specifying status of combination vehicles after
8 an accident; requiring certain report by law
9 enforcement officers; amending 47 O.S. 2021, Section
10 951, which relates to definitions; updating statutory
11 references; updating statutory language; defining
12 term; providing for codification; and providing an
13 effective date.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

15 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 10-119 of Title 47, unless there
17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

18 If an accident has caused or requires the separation of a truck
19 tractor from a trailer, the truck tractor and trailer shall be
20 considered a combination vehicle as defined in Section 951 of Title
21 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Any officer of the Department of
22 Public Safety or any other political subdivision of this state, when
23 causing a vehicle to be towed pursuant to Section 955 of Title 47 of
24 the Oklahoma Statutes, shall record in his or her written report of
25 the accident that the vehicle requiring wrecker or towing service is
26 a combination vehicle and is subject to removal by an operator.

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 47 O.S. 2021, Section 951, is

2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 951. As used in Sections 951 through 965 of this title
4 and Sections ~~1~~ 966 through ~~3~~ 968 of this ~~act~~ title:

5 1. "Wrecker or wrecker vehicle" means any motor vehicle that is
6 equipped with any device designed to tow another vehicle or
7 combination of vehicles. The use of the term "~~wrecker~~" wrecker or
8 "~~wrecker vehicle~~" wrecker vehicle shall be construed to include a
9 combination wrecker or combination wrecker vehicle, as defined in
10 paragraph 2 of this section, unless a specific differentiation is
11 otherwise described;

12 2. "Combination wrecker" or "combination wrecker vehicle" means
13 any wrecker vehicle which is designed and equipped with two separate
14 and distinct devices to tow simultaneously two or more other
15 vehicles or combinations of vehicles, whether or not both devices
16 are in use simultaneously. One of the devices shall allow another
17 vehicle to be loaded onto and transported upon the wrecker vehicle,
18 and one of the devices shall allow another vehicle to be attached to
19 and pulled by the wrecker vehicle;

20 3. "Tow" or "towing" means the use of a wrecker vehicle to
21 lift, pull, move, haul or otherwise transport any other vehicle by
22 means of:

- 23 a. attaching the vehicle to and pulling the vehicle with
24 the wrecker vehicle, or

1 b. loading the vehicle onto and transporting the vehicle
2 upon the wrecker vehicle;

3 4. "Rollback equipment" means a towing device or equipment upon
4 which the towed vehicle is loaded and transported, removing the
5 towed vehicle completely from the surface of the roadway. The term
6 ~~"rollback equipment"~~ rollback equipment shall include car haulers;

7 5. "Dolly" means a towing device or equipment which lifts and
8 suspends one axle of the towed vehicle above the surface of the
9 roadway;

10 6. "Wrecker or towing service" means engaging in the business
11 of or performing the act of towing or offering to tow any vehicle,
12 except:

13 a. where the operator owns the towed vehicle and displays
14 on both sides of the wrecker vehicle in plainly
15 visible letters not less than two (2) inches in height
16 the words "NOT FOR HIRE",

17 b. where the service is performed by a transporter as
18 defined in Section 1-181 of this title,

19 c. where service is performed in conjunction with the
20 transportation of household goods and property,

21 d. where the wrecker vehicle is owned or operated by the
22 United States government, ~~the State of Oklahoma~~ this
23 state, or any department or political subdivision
24 thereof, or

1 e. where the service is performed by an out-of-state
2 wrecker service at the request of the vehicle owner or
3 operator, the vehicle is not involved in a collision,
4 and is being towed:

5 (1) in either direction across the border between
6 Oklahoma and a neighboring state, or

7 (2) through Oklahoma in transit to another state;
8 provided, the out-of-state wrecker service shall
9 comply with all other requirements regarding
10 interstate commerce as set forth in law;

11 7. "Combination vehicle" means a truck tractor, as defined in
12 Section 1-183 of this title, with one or more attached trailers as
13 defined in Section 1-180 of this title;

14 8. "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Safety;

15 ~~8.~~ 9. "Commission" means the Corporation Commission;

16 ~~9.~~ 10. "Department" means the Department of Public Safety;

17 ~~10.~~ 11. "Nonconsensual tow" means the transportation of a
18 vehicle without the consent or knowledge of the vehicle's owner,
19 possessor, agent, insurer, lienholder, or any other person in
20 possession of or in charge of any vehicle and includes the
21 transportation or towing of the vehicle under lawful circumstances
22 or necessity for the public interest including removing from the
23 roadway for public safety or public convenience, or accidents, by
24 any law enforcement officer or property agent or removal from public

1 or private property as a result of abandonment or unauthorized
2 parking by the property owner, agent, possessor, or other legal
3 entity for the property owner;

4 ~~11.~~ 12. "Operator" means any person owning or operating a
5 wrecker vehicle or wrecker or towing service;

6 ~~12.~~ 13. "Officer" means any duly authorized law enforcement
7 officer;

8 ~~13.~~ 14. "Roadway" means any public street, road, highway or
9 turnpike or the median, easement or shoulder of a roadway;

10 ~~14.~~ 15. "Service call" means the act of responding to a request
11 for service with a wrecker vehicle in which a service is performed;
12 and

13 ~~15.~~ 16. "Vehicle" shall:

- 14 a. have the same meaning as defined in Section 1-186 of
15 this title, and
16 b. for the purposes of this chapter when referring to a
17 vehicle or combination of vehicles being towed or
18 stored, include a vessel. The term "vessel" shall
19 have the same meaning as defined in Section 4002 of
20 Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

21 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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