

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5570

As of February 8, 2011

Title: An act relating to prohibiting the impoundment of farm vehicles under certain conditions.

Brief Description: Prohibiting the impoundment of farm vehicles under certain conditions.

Sponsors: Senators Honeyford, Hatfield, Holmquist Newbry, Stevens, Parlette, King, Schoesler and Becker.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Agriculture & Rural Economic Development: 2/08/11.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Staff: Sam Thompson (786-7413)

Background: A law enforcement officer may summarily impound a vehicle when the driver is arrested for driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug (DUI), or for driving with an invalid license.

Summary of Bill: A farm vehicle may not be impounded when a driver is arrested for DUI or for driving with an invalid license when the vehicle is transporting:

- farm products owned by another farm from point of production to market or warehouse, or
- supplies to be used on another farm.

In such instances, the vehicle must be parked at a place of safety and the registered owner notified as soon as practicable by the law enforcement agency to give the owner an opportunity to obtain an alternative driver or to prevent the loss of the transported products.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect on August 1, 2011.

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