

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1224, As Amended

BY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO SLOW MOVING VEHICLES; AMENDING SECTION 49-619, IDAHO CODE, TO
2 PROVIDE AN EXCEPTION AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING SEC-
3 TION 49-639, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING TURNING OUT OF
4 SLOW MOVING VEHICLES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EF-
5 FECTIVE DATE.
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. That Section 49-619, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
9 amended to read as follows:

10 49-619. SLOW MOVING VEHICLES -- RESTRICTIONS AND EXCEPTIONS, EQUIP-
11 MENT -- EMBLEMS ON CERTAIN MACHINERY -- LIMITED EXEMPTION. (1) It shall be
12 unlawful to operate a slow moving vehicle on the highways at the following
13 times and under the following circumstances:

14 (a) From one-half (1/2) hour after sunset to one-half (1/2) hour before
15 sunrise, unless the vehicle or equipment is equipped with lights as re-
16 quired by section 49-916, Idaho Code;

17 (b) At a speed in excess of twenty-five (25) miles per hour, unless the
18 vehicle or equipment, including towed units of farm equipment, is de-
19 signed to safely travel at speeds in excess of twenty-five (25) miles
20 per hour, but no such vehicle or equipment shall exceed the posted maxi-
21 mum speed limit and shall be operated by a licensed driver; and

22 (c) In such a manner as to obstruct the free movement of traffic on
23 the highways except when no safe and reasonable designated turnout or
24 location exists for a slow moving vehicle, farm tractor, construction
25 equipment, or implement of husbandry to temporarily exit the roadway or
26 otherwise allow traffic to pass.

27 (2) A slow moving vehicle shall be equipped with a braking system and
28 with a mechanical signaling device as required for other similarly con-
29 structed vehicles.

30 (3) All slow moving vehicles, farm tractors, road rollers, and imple-
31 ments of husbandry shall have affixed at the rear of the vehicle an emblem
32 identifying them as slow moving equipment. The Idaho traffic safety commis-
33 sion shall recommend to the board the minimum standards for the emblem.

34 (4) Emergency and snow removal vehicles owned and operated by the state
35 or its political subdivisions when en route to, from, or in the performance
36 of activities essential to the public safety, shall be exempt from the provi-
37 sions of paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (1) of this section.

38 SECTION 2. That Section 49-639, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
39 amended to read as follows:

1 49-639. TURNING OUT OF SLOW MOVING VEHICLES. On a two-lane highway
2 outside an urban area where passing is unsafe due to oncoming traffic or
3 other conditions, the driver of a vehicle, including but not limited to a
4 vehicle traveling slower than the normal speed of traffic and, a slow mov-
5 ing vehicle, a farm tractor, construction equipment, or an implement of
6 husbandry, behind which three (3) or more vehicles are formed in line shall
7 turn off the roadway at the nearest place designated as a turnout or at the
8 next available location where it is safe and reasonable for the vehicle to be
9 pulled over in order to permit the following vehicles to pass. Such driver
10 shall not be deemed to violate this section if he has not, during the time
11 when three (3) or more vehicles are formed in line behind his vehicle, passed
12 a designated turnout or location where it would be safe and reasonable for
13 the vehicle to be pulled over.

14 SECTION 3. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
15 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after
16 July 1, 2026.