

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2021 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 376

BY SENATORS CLEMENTS, SWOPE, PLYMALE, AND

JEFFRIES

[Introduced February 22, 2021; referred
to the Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §17C-15-37 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended,
2 relating to removing inoperative provisions requiring Commissioner of the Division of
3 Highways set standards for studded snow tires.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 15. EQUIPMENT.

§17C-15-37. Tire equipment restrictions; rules and regulations as to certain tires.

1 (a) Every solid rubber tire on a vehicle shall have rubber on its entire traction surface at
2 least one inch thick above the edge of the flange of the entire periphery.

3 (b) No person shall operate or move on any highway any motor vehicle, trailer, or
4 semitrailer having any metal tire in contact with the roadway.

5 (c) No tire on a vehicle moved on a highway shall have on its periphery any block, stud,
6 flange, cleat, or spike, or any other protuberance of any material other than rubber which projects
7 beyond the tread of the traction surface of the tire, except that: (1) It shall be permissible to use
8 farm machinery with tires having protuberances which will not injure the highway; (2) it shall be
9 permissible to use tire chains of reasonable proportions upon any vehicle when required for safety
10 because of snow, ice, or other conditions tending to cause a vehicle to skid; and (3) it shall be
11 permissible to use studded tires during the period from November 1 of each year until April 15 of
12 the following year: *Provided*, That in the interest of highway maintenance, no vehicle moved on a
13 highway, other than school buses, shall be equipped with studded tires which are operational with
14 a recommended air pressure greater than 40 pounds per square inch.

15 ~~(d) No studded tires or chains shall be sold or used within the State of West Virginia which~~
16 ~~do not meet the specifications established by the rules and regulations which the commissioner~~
17 ~~of highways shall promulgate, but the commissioner may not by those rules and regulations~~
18 ~~prohibit the use of studded tires or chains within the state~~

19 (e) (d) The Commissioner of the Division of Highways and local authorities in their
20 respective jurisdictions may in their discretion issue special permits authorizing the operation

21 upon the highway of traction engines or tractors having movable tracks with transverse
22 corrugations upon the periphery of such movable tracks or farm tractors or other farm machinery,
23 the operation of which upon a highway would otherwise be prohibited under this chapter.