

Sixty-first
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1569

Introduced by

Representatives Koppelman, Griffin, Wall, Wieland

Senators G. Lee, Nelson

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 3 of section 39-06-14 and section 39-27-07
2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to rim diameters on motorcycles and license to
3 operate a three-wheel motorcycle.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 39-06-14 of the North Dakota
6 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 3. An applicant, except an applicant holding a valid North Dakota operator's license
8 who will be issued a class D license, applying for issuance of an operator's license
9 must be issued a classified license after having been required to submit to an
10 examination in the type of motor vehicle or combination of vehicles for which
11 license is desired and which license shall authorize the holder to drive the vehicles
12 as provided in section 39-06.2-09, or as follows:

13 a. A driver with a class D license may operate any single vehicle with a gross
14 vehicle weight rating of twenty-six thousand pounds [11793.40 kilograms] or
15 less or any such vehicle towing a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating
16 not in excess of ten thousand pounds [4535.92 kilograms]. A driver with a
17 class D license may operate a farm tractor towing another vehicle having a
18 gross weight in excess of ten thousand pounds [4535.92 kilograms], and a
19 truck towing a trailer, semitrailer, or farm trailer when the gross weight of the
20 trailer, semitrailer, or farm trailer, not including the weight of the towing
21 vehicle, does not exceed sixteen thousand pounds [7257.48 kilograms]. A
22 driver with a class D license may operate a house car or a vehicle towing a
23 travel trailer being used solely for personal purposes.

- 1 b. A driver with a class D license may operate any two-axle or tandem-axle
2 motor vehicle, a farm tractor towing another vehicle having a gross weight in
3 excess of six thousand pounds [2721.55 kilograms], and a truck or truck
4 tractor towing a trailer, semitrailer, or farm trailer if the driver is exempted from
5 a commercial driver's license under subsection 3 of section 39-06.2-06,
6 except the driver may not operate a double trailer, triple trailer, or, if under
7 eighteen years of age, a truck tractor as defined in section 39-01-01 or a bus
8 designed to carry sixteen or more passengers, including the driver.
- 9 c. A driver with a class M license may operate any motor vehicle having a seat
10 or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than
11 ~~three~~ two wheels in contact with the ground or this motor vehicle with a
12 sidecar, but excluding motorized bicycles, tractors, and vehicles on which the
13 operator or passengers, or both, ride within an enclosed cab. A class M
14 vehicle may not be operated under a class A, B, C, or D license.
- 15 (1) The holder of a class A, B, C, or D license may receive a class M
16 endorsement upon successful completion of an examination. The
17 director may waive the skill portion of the examination if the applicant
18 has successfully completed a motorcycle safety course approved by the
19 director.
- 20 (2) An applicant sixteen years of age and older, who does not hold a
21 current valid operator's license may be issued a class M learner's
22 permit after successful completion of a written examination. The
23 class M license will be issued after the applicant has successfully
24 completed a driver's examination. The director may waive the skill
25 portion of the examination if the applicant has successfully completed a
26 motorcycle safety course approved by the director.
- 27 (3) Applicants fourteen or fifteen years of age may be issued a motorcycle
28 learner's permit if the applicant is enrolled in or has completed an
29 approved motorcycle safety course. Applicants for a motorcycle
30 operator's license who are under sixteen years of age shall hold an
31 initial learner's permit for at least two months before applying for a

class M operator's license, shall have completed an approved motorcycle safety course, and shall hold a valid motorcycle learner's permit at the time of application. The director may waive the skill portion of the examination if the applicant has successfully completed a motorcycle safety course approved by the director. Any person under sixteen years of age who holds a permit or license is restricted to the operation of a motorcycle powered with an engine of two hundred fifty cubic centimeters, or less, displacement. Evidence that the applicant has satisfactorily completed a motorcycle safety course which meets the minimum requirements of the motorcycle safety foundation must accompany the application.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 39-27-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

39-27-05. Tires, wheels, and rims.

1. Motorcycle tires must be of pneumatic design with a minimum width of two and twenty-five hundredths inches [57.15 millimeters] designed for highway use.
2. Tires on two-wheel motorcycles and the front tire on a three-wheel motorcycle must have a load capacity rating at least equal to their respective gross axle weight ratings. Each tire on the rear axle of a three-wheel motorcycle must have a load capacity rating at least equal to one-half the rear axle gross axle weight rating.
3. Wheel rim diameters may not be less than ~~ten~~ eight inches [~~25.4~~ 20.32 centimeters] and must otherwise comply with applicable state standards, as promulgated by the director. Two-wheel motorcycles using low pressure tires are exempt from this subsection if the inflated height of the tire is twenty inches [508 millimeters] or greater.