

Commercial Motor Vehicle Definition Clarification; SB 36

SB 36 amends law related to commercial motor vehicles.

The bill removes various definitions related to commercial motor vehicles from the statutes and replaces references to those terms with references to definitions in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) as of July 1, 2017, or any later version established in rules and regulations of the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC). The bill also replaces references to definitions in “rules and regulations adopted by” the KCC with the same reference to the CFR or later version as adopted by the KCC in rules and regulations.

The bill clarifies KCC authority to regulate motor carriers by specifying authority for only those that operate vehicles meeting the definition of “commercial motor vehicle.” A “commercial motor vehicle” is defined in 49 CFR 390.5 as having a gross weight of 10,001 pounds or more, designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including the driver) for compensation, designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers (including the driver) not for compensation, or used to transport hazardous materials.

The bill also repeals a registration fee for vehicles of certain interstate motor carriers that transport commodities. Following changes in federal law, the fee was phased out several years ago.