

approaches shall be maintained by the Department of Highways in accordance with present or future laws governing the reconstruction and maintenance of State highways.

Act effective immediately.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 31st day of May, A. D. 1956.

GEORGE M. LEADER

No. 629

AN ACT

Amending the act of May one, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 905), entitled "An act for the protection of the public safety; regulating the use of highways, and the operation of vehicles, tractors, street cars, trackless trolley omnibuses, bicycles, pedestrians, and the riding of animals upon the highways of this Commonwealth; providing for the titling, including liens, encumbrances, and legal claims; registration of certain vehicles and licensing the operators thereof, upon payment of prescribed fees; prescribing and limiting the powers of local authorities to deal with the subject matter of this act, conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Department of Revenue, the Department of Highways, peace officers, mayors, burgesses, magistrates, aldermen, justices of the peace, the courts and the clerks thereof, owners of vehicles, and garage keepers; providing that records are admissible as evidence; imposing upon owners, counties, cities, boroughs, incorporated towns, townships, within the Commonwealth, liability for damages caused by the negligent operation of their motor vehicles; imposing penalties; imposing certain costs upon counties; providing for the disposition of fines, forfeitures, fees, and miscellaneous receipts; making an appropriation and providing for refunds," including within the definition of "Commercial Motor Vehicle" and excluding from the definition of "Motor Omnibus," buses transporting pupils of private and parochial schools and Sunday school children, and by regulating the use of commercial motor vehicles.

The Vehicle Code.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Definitions of "Commercial Motor Vehicle" and "Motor Omnibus", section 102, act of May 1, 1929, P. L. 905, amended May 18, 1949, P. L. 1412, further amended.

Section 1. The definitions of "Commercial Motor Vehicle" and "Motor Omnibus," in section 102, act of May one, one thousand nine hundred twenty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 905), known as "The Vehicle Code," amended May eighteen, one thousand nine hundred forty-nine (Pamphlet Laws 1412), are amended to read:

Section 102. Definitions.—The following words and phrases when used in this act, shall, for the purpose of this act, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

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“Commercial Motor Vehicle.”—Any motor vehicle designed for carrying freight or merchandise: Provided, however, That a motor vehicle, originally designed for passenger transportation, to which has been added a removable box body without materially altering said motor vehicle, when owned and used by a farmer, shall not be deemed a “commercial motor vehicle” for the purpose of this act: And further provided, That any motor vehicle of the bus type, operated under contract with or owned by any school district, *private school or parochial school* of this Commonwealth for the transportation of school children *or children between their homes and Sunday school*, shall be deemed a “commercial motor vehicle.”

\* \* \* \* \*

“Motor Omnibus.”—Shall include all motor vehicles operated for the carriage of passengers for hire by individuals, associations, copartnerships, or corporations, who or which were not engaged in the carriage of passengers for hire as common carriers prior to the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and who or which are not required under the laws of this Commonwealth to obtain from the Public Utility Commission of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania a certificate of public convenience for the carriage of passengers for hire or motor vehicle of the bus type not operated for the carriage of passengers for hire except as herein provided. This definition shall not include or apply to any motor vehicle operated under contract with any school district, *private school or parochial school* of this Commonwealth for the transportation of school children *or children between their homes and Sunday school*; such motor vehicles to come within the definitions of commercial motor vehicles or motor vehicles.

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Section 2. A new section is added, after section 502 of said act, to read:

*Section 502.1. Use of Commercial Registration Plates Limited.—Except for transporting authorized \*employees of the owner or lessee, school children for school purposes, or children between their homes and Sunday school in commercial motor vehicles owned by any school district, parochial school or private school, and school children between their homes and school, and children between their homes and Sunday school in commercial motor vehicles operated, under contract, with any school district, parochial school or private school, it shall be un-*

\* “employees” in original.

*lawful for any person or political subdivision to operate any commercial vehicle for the carriage of passengers. A copy of any lease or contract shall be maintained in the vehicle at all times.*

*Penalty.—Any person violating any of the provisions of this section, shall, upon summary conviction before a magistrate, be sentenced to pay a fine of twenty-five (\$25) dollars and costs of prosecution, and, in default of the payment thereof, shall undergo imprisonment for not more than five (5) days.*

Date when  
effective.

Section 3. The provisions of section two of this act shall take effect in ten (10) days.

APPROVED—The 31st day of May, A. D. 1956.

GEORGE M. LEADER

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No. 630

AN ACT

Amending the act of May twenty-eight, one thousand nine hundred thirty-seven (Pamphlet Laws 1053), entitled "An act relating to the regulation of public utilities; defining as public utilities certain corporations, companies, associations, and persons; providing for the regulation of public utilities, including, to a limited extent, municipalities engaging in public utility business, by prescribing, defining, and limiting their duties, powers, and liabilities, and regulating the exercise, surrender or abandonment of their powers, privileges, and franchises; defining and regulating contract carriers by motor vehicle and brokers in order to regulate effectively common carriers by motor vehicle; conferring upon the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission the power and duty of supervising and regulating persons, associations, companies, and corporations, including, to a limited extent, municipal corporations subject to this act, and administering the provisions of this act; authorizing the commission to fix temporary rates; placing the burden of proof on public utilities to sustain their rates and certain other matters; authorizing a permissive or mandatory sliding scale method of regulating rates; providing for the supervision of financial and contractual relations between public utilities and affiliated interests, and supervision and regulation of accounts and securities or obligations issued, assumed, or kept by persons, associations, companies, corporations or municipal corporations subject to this act; conferring upon the commission power to vary, reform, or revise certain contracts; conferring upon the commission the exclusive power to regulate or order the construction, alteration, relocation, protection, or abolition of crossings of facilities of public utilities, and of such facilities by or over public highways, to appropriate property for the construction or improvement of such crossings, and to award or apportion resultant costs and damages; authorizing owners of such property to sue the Commonwealth for such damages; providing for ejectment proceedings in connection with the appropriation of property for crossings; conferring upon the