

**Chapter:** 171 (H.F. 3548)

**Session:** 2018 Regular Session

**Topic:** Agricultural transportation

**Analyst:** Matt Burress (matt.burress@house.mn)

**Date:** May 22, 2018

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: [www.house.mn/hrd/](http://www.house.mn/hrd/).

### Overview

This act modifies load securement requirements and exemptions from motor carrier hours of service requirements for agricultural transportation. “Hours of service” refers to carrier requirements in federal regulations (incorporated into state statutes with exceptions) on amounts of driving time, periods of rest, and logging of on-duty and rest time.

#### Section

- 1** **Manner of loading.** Establishes that it is not an unsecured load if a vehicle hauling thawing unprocessed sugar beets leaks liquid. Makes technical changes. Effective May 20, 2018.
- 2** **Hours of service exemptions.** Broadens the harvest season to be year-round for an hours of service exemption in *intrastate* transportation of agricultural commodities and farm supplies within a 150-air mile radius. Clarifies that the exemption covers all hours of service regulations (including electronic logging device rules).  
  
There are multiple statutory exemptions from federal motor carrier regulation for agricultural transportation; this provision applies to all agricultural transportation including for-hire carriers.
- 3** **Hours of service of driver.** Incorporates a federal exemption into state statute and establishes a year-round harvest season, which has the effect of applying a federal exemption from federal hours of service rules in Minnesota for *interstate* transportation throughout the year.