

WHAT IS REAR-END PROTECTION?

Rear-end protection is a device installed on or near the rear of a vehicle so that when the vehicle is struck from the rear, the device limits the distance that the striking vehicle's front end slides under the rear end of the impacted vehicle.

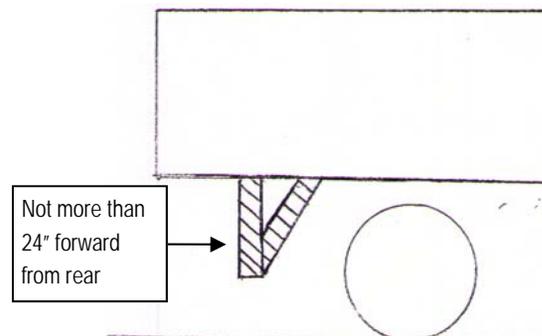
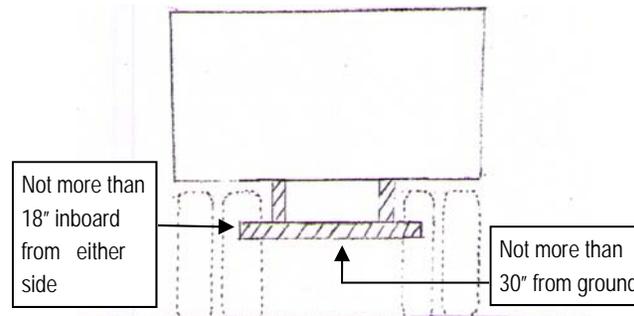


WHEN DID THIS REQUIREMENT GO INTO EFFECT?

Each motor vehicle manufactured after December 31, 1952, in which the vertical distance between the rear bottom edge of the body and the ground is greater than 30 inches when the motor vehicle is empty, is required to be equipped with rear-end protection.

WHY DIDN'T MY FARM TRUCK COME EQUIPPED WITH REAR-END PROTECTION?

Many farm trucks were converted to farm use after being used in another capacity. Also, most farm trucks are put together from a variety of sources. The cab and chassis come from one source and the box and hoist from another and all of these components may have been assembled by yet another source. So rear-end protection was often overlooked on these vehicles.



HOW CAN I GET MY FARM TRUCK INTO COMPLIANCE WITH THE REGULATIONS?

The rear-end protection device (bumper) must be installed and maintained in such a manner that meets the following criteria:

- Ground clearance shall not exceed 30 inches when the vehicle is empty;
- Located not more than 24 inches forward of the extreme rear of the vehicle;
- Must be sufficiently wide so that the rear-end protection device's ends are not more than 18 inches inboard from either side;
- Must be substantially constructed and attached with bolts, welding, or other comparable means.



ARE THERE ANY VEHICLES THAT DON'T NEED REAR-END PROTECTION?

Yes, some vehicles have components and structures that may be used to satisfy the requirements of rear-end protection. If the vehicle is constructed and maintained so that the body, chassis, or other parts of the vehicle provide rear-end protection comparable to a rear-end protection device (bumper) conforming to the requirements for rear-impact protection, the vehicle would be considered to be in compliance.



The NDHP adopted Part 393 in Administrative Rules (38-04-01-02) effective October 1, 1983.
NDCC 39-21-46

FMCSR's Title 49—Transportation

Part 393 (a) (b)—Parts & Accessories necessary for safe operation.

Part 393.86—Rear impact guards and rear-end protection.



North Dakota Highway Patrol Motor Carrier Operations

600 East Boulevard Avenue
Department 504
Bismarck, ND 58505-0240

Phone: (701) 328-2455
Fax: (701) 328-1717
E-mail: ndhpinfo@nd.gov
Visit our Website:
www.nd.gov/ndhp

North Dakota
Highway Patrol



Motor Carrier
Operations

Requirements for

Rear-end Protection

for North Dakota Farm Trucks

