

FREE STATE PROVINCE

PROVINCIAL GAZETTE

PROVINSIALE KOERANT

PROVINSIE VRYSTAAT

Published by Authority

Uitgegee op Gesag

No. 22

BLOEMFONTEIN, 27 MARCH 1998

BLOEMFONTEIN, 27 MAART 1998

OFFICE OF THE PREMIER

KANTOOR VAN DIE PREMIER

No. 4

27 March 1998

No. 4

27 Maart 1998

It is hereby notified that the Acting Premier has assented to the following Act which is hereby published for general information:-

Hierby word bekend gemaak dat die Waarnemende Premier die onderstaande Wet bekragtig het, wat hierby ter algemene inligting gepubliseer word:-

No. 2 of 1998: Free State Provincial Road Traffic Act, 1998

No. 2 van 1998: Vrystaat Provinsiale Padverkeerswet, 1998

ACT

To consolidate and amend the provisions relating to road traffic which apply in the Province, and to provide for matters incidental thereto.

BE IT ENACTED by the Provincial Legislature of the Free State Province, as follows:—

—————
(English text signed by the Acting Premier.)
(Assented to 20 March 1998)
—————

5

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

10

CHAPTER I

Interpretation of Act

Section

15

1. Definitions

CHAPTER II

20

Registering authorities and officers

2. Appointment of registering authorities
3. Appointment of officers
4. Application for registration as inspector of licences, examiner of vehicles, examiner for driving licences or traffic officer
5. Registration and grading of officers
6. Suspension and cancellation of registration of officer
7. Powers and duties of inspector of licences
8. Powers and duties of examiner of vehicles
9. Powers and duties of examiner for driving licences
10. Powers and duties of traffic officer
11. Failure to comply with instruction or direction of inspector of licences, traffic officer, examiner of vehicles or peace officer
12. Impersonating authorized officer or peace officer or inducing any such officer to forsake his or her duty

25

30

35

40

45

CHAPTER III

Instructors

- | | | |
|-----|---|----|
| 13. | Instructor to be registered and graded | 5 |
| 14. | Application for registration as instructor | |
| 15. | Registration and grading of instructors | 10 |
| 16. | Suspension and cancellation of registration of instructor | |

CHAPTER IV

Inspectorate of testing stations and driving licence testing centres 15

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 17. | Appointment of inspectorate of testing stations | |
| 18. | Appointment of inspectorate of driving licence testing centres | 20 |

CHAPTER V

Parking fees

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 19. | Power of local authority to collect parking fees | 25 |
|-----|--|----|

CHAPTER VI

Presumptions and legal procedure

- | | | |
|-----|---|----|
| 20. | Presumption in regard to public road, freeway and public road in urban area | 30 |
| 21. | Presumption that owner drove or parked vehicle | |
| 22. | Presumption in regard to officers | 35 |

CHAPTER VII

Appeals

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|----|
| 23. | Right of appeal to Premier | 40 |
| 24. | Right of appeal to MEC | |

CHAPTER VIII

Regulations and by-laws

- | | | |
|-----|---|----|
| 25. | Power of MEC to make regulations | 50 |
| 26. | Powers of local authority to make by-laws | |
| 27. | Local authority may determine fees | |

CHAPTER IX

Registers and records

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 28. | Registers or records to be kept | 5 |
| 29. | Copy of entry in register or record to be <i>prima facie</i> proof | |
| 30. | Cognisance may be taken of information contained in register or record | 10 |

CHAPTER X

General provisions

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 31. | Parking of medical personnel | 15 |
| 32. | Special provisions relating to parking | |
| 33. | MEC may authorize certain refunds | 20 |
| 34. | Registering authority subject to inspection by Auditor-General | |
| 35. | Inspections for ensuring that provisions of this Act are being given effect to | 25 |
| 36. | Variation of prescribed form | |
| 37. | Signature upon documents | |
| 38. | Service of notices | 30 |
| 39. | State bound | |
| 40. | Offences and penalties | |
| 41. | Apportionment of fees | 35 |
| 42. | Apportionment of fines | |
| 43. | Delegation | |
| 44. | Repeal of laws and savings | 40 |
| 45. | Short title and commencement | |

CHAPTER I

INTERPRETATION OF ACT

Definitions

5

1. (1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise indicates—

- (i) **"authorized officer"** means an inspector of licences, examiner of vehicles, examiner for driving licences or traffic officer, and includes any other person whom the MEC may from time to time by regulation declare to be an authorized officer; (ii) 10
- (ii) **"by-law"** means a by-law contemplated in section 26; (xvii) 15
- (iii) **"Director-General"** means the Director-General of the Administration of the Free State Province; (i)
- (iv) **"examiner for driving licences"** means an examiner for driving licences registered and appointed under Chapter II; (xiv) 20
- (v) **"examiner of vehicles"** means an examiner of vehicles registered and appointed under Chapter II; (ix)
- (vi) **"inspector of licences"** means an inspector of licences registered and appointed under Chapter II; (iv) 25
- (vii) **"instructor"** means any person who for direct or indirect reward—
 - (a) instructs any other person in the driving of a motor vehicle; or 30
 - (b) teaches any other person the rules of the road or road traffic signs in order to obtain a learner's or a driving licence; (v)
- (viii) **"MEC"** means the member of the Executive Council appointed under section 132 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No 108 of 1996), to whom road traffic matters have been assigned; (vi) 35

- (ix) **"Minister"** means the Minister of Transport in the National Government;
(vii)
- (x) **"National Road Traffic Act, 1996"** includes the regulations made in terms of that Act; (viii) 5
- (xi) **"Premier"** means the Premier of the province elected under section 128 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996; (x)
- (xii) **"prescribe"** or **"prescribed"** means prescribed by regulation; (xviii) 10
- (xiii) **"province"** means the Free State Province established under section 103 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996; (xi)
- (xiv) **"registering authority"** means a registering authority appointed under section 2; (xii) 15
- (xv) **"regulation"** means a regulation (other than a by-law) made in terms of this Act; (xiii) 20
- (xvi) **"this Act"** includes the regulations, and for purposes of Chapters II, III and IV of this Act also includes the National Road Traffic Act, 1996; (iii)
- (xvii) **"traffic officer"** means a traffic officer registered and appointed under Chapter II, and any member of the Service as defined in section 1 of the South African Police Service Act, 1995 (Act No 68 of 1995), and for the purposes of Chapters IV and V and sections 22 and 29 of this Act includes a peace officer; and (xv) 25
- (xviii) **"traffic warden"** means a traffic warden appointed under Chapter II. (xvi) 30
- (2) Any word or expression defined in the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, but not defined in subsection (1), shall, unless the context otherwise indicates, bear the same meaning as the meaning assigned to it in the National Road Traffic Act, 1996.

CHAPTER II

REGISTERING AUTHORITIES AND OFFICERS

Appointment of registering authorities

5

2. (1) For the purposes of this Act, the MEC shall, by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*, appoint a registering authority for the area and on the conditions he or she determines from time to time.

10

- (2) The MEC may combine the area of any registering authority or any portion thereof with the area of another registering authority and may divide the area of a registering authority into areas for two or more registering authorities.

- (3) Where, from or after a specific date, a registering authority (in this subsection referred to as a new registering authority) becomes the registering authority for an area previously under the jurisdiction of another registering authority (including a registering authority appointed under a repealed act or ordinance) any reference in this Act or a repealed act or ordinance to such other registering authority shall, from or after such date, be construed as a reference to such new registering authority.

15

20

- (4) The powers and duties conferred or imposed upon a registering authority by or in terms of this Act shall be exercised or performed on behalf of that registering authority by the persons authorized thereto by the registering authority.

25

Appointment of officers

3. (1) For the purposes of this Act—

- (a) the MEC may, subject to the laws governing the public service and upon such conditions as he or she may determine, appoint for the province as many persons as—

30

- (i) inspectors of licences;
- (ii) examiners of vehicles;
- (iii) examiners for driving licences;
- (iv) traffic officers; and
- (v) traffic wardens;

35

as he or she may deem expedient;

40

- (b) a local authority which is a registering authority may, upon such conditions as the MEC may prescribe by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*, appoint for its area so many persons as —

- (i) inspectors of licences;
- (ii) examiners of vehicles; and
- (iii) examiners for driving licences,

5

as it may deem expedient;

10

- (c) any local authority or two or more local authorities may jointly, upon such conditions as the MEC may prescribe by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*, appoint for its area or for their areas jointly, as the case may be, so many persons as traffic officers or reserve traffic officers as such authority or authorities may deem expedient, and such officers shall function—

15

- (i) within such area or areas; and
- (ii) with the prior approval of the MEC and subject to the conditions of such approval, outside such area or areas:

20

Provided that the MEC may, by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*, determine that such officers may not operate on any specified public road or portion thereof which is situated within the area of jurisdiction of a local authority;

25

- (d) any local authority may appoint persons as traffic wardens or as reserve traffic wardens to exercise or perform within its area such powers and duties of a traffic officer as the MEC may determine: Provided that the MEC may—

- (i) make different determinations in respect of different categories of traffic wardens; and
- (ii) either generally or specifically, impose conditions with regard to the exercise or performance of such powers and duties;

30

- (e) any person or authority determined by the MEC by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*, may, on the conditions and for the areas determined in the notice, appoint any person as an examiner of vehicles.
- (2) No person shall be appointed under subsection (1) as an authorized officer unless he or she has been registered and graded under section 5. 5
- (3) Any person appointed under subsection (1) as an authorized officer, shall upon his or her appointment be issued with a certificate of appointment by the MEC, local authority, person or authority concerned, appointing him or her. 10
- (4) (a) An authorized officer shall not exercise any power or perform any duty unless he or she is in possession of his or her certificate of appointment.
- (b) An authorized officer shall produce his or her certificate of appointment at the request of any person having a material interest in the matter concerned. 15

Application for registration as inspector of licences, examiner of vehicles, examiner for driving licences or traffic officer

- 4. (1) A person desiring to be registered as— 20
 - (a) an inspector of licences;
 - (b) an examiner of vehicles; 25
 - (c) an examiner for driving licences; or
 - (d) a traffic officer, 30
- shall apply therefor to the MEC in the prescribed manner.
- (2) An application referred to in subsection (1) shall be accompanied by the prescribed fees.

Registration and grading of officers

5. (1) If the MEC is satisfied that an applicant contemplated in section 4 complies with the requirements for competency and registration as referred to in section 3(2) of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, prescribed in relation to the specific category of application, he or she shall register and grade such applicant in the prescribed manner. 5
- (2) Any person registered as an authorized officer in any other province shall be deemed to be registered as an authorized officer in this province. 10

Suspension and cancellation of registration of officer

6. (1) The MEC may, for the period that he or she deems fit, suspend, or cancel, in the prescribed manner, the registration of a person registered in terms of section 5(1), if — 15
- (a) in the opinion of the MEC such person is guilty of misconduct in the exercise of his or her powers or the performance of his or her duties; or
- (b) in the opinion of the MEC the performance record of such person indicates that he or she is incompetent to exercise or perform the powers or duties of an officer of the category in which he or she is registered. 20
- (2) The registration of a person referred to in subsection (1) may only be suspended or cancelled after such person had the opportunity to make representations in writing and to show cause, within the period determined by the MEC, which period shall not be less than 21 days, why the registration should not be suspended or cancelled. 25
- (3) Any person affected by the decision of the MEC referred to in subsection (1) may, within 21 days after he or she became aware of the decision, request the MEC to give reasons in writing for his or her decision. 30
- (4) If the registration of any person is suspended or cancelled in terms of this section that person shall forthwith return his or her registration document to the MEC concerned who shall keep such document for the period of suspension, or cancel such document, as the case may be. 35

Powers and duties of inspector of licences

7. In addition to the powers and duties conferred upon him or her by or under this Act an inspector of licences may, subject to the provisions of this Act or any other law—
- 5
- (a) by notice in writing as prescribed, direct the owner, operator, driver or person in charge of any vehicle, wherever found, which in his or her opinion does not comply with the requirements for roadworthiness certification provided for in this Act or in any other law, to produce such vehicle for inspection, examination or testing to an appropriately graded testing station for such class of vehicle at a time and place specified in such notice; 10
 - (b) in respect of any motor vehicle, demand from the title holder, owner, operator or driver thereof the production of any document which such person is required to have in respect of that motor vehicle in terms of this Act, or any like document issued by a competent authority outside the Republic; 15
 - (c) require from any instructor—
 - (i) where such instructor is engaged in teaching or instructing another person in the driving of a motor vehicle, forthwith; or 20
 - (ii) where such instructor is not so engaged, within seven days, to produce evidence of his or her registration; 25
 - (d) examine any motor vehicle in order to satisfy himself or herself whether it is the motor vehicle in respect of which a document referred to in paragraph (b) was issued;
 - (e) impound any document referred to in paragraph (b) which appears to be or which the officer suspects to be invalid or which has been or appears to have been unlawfully altered or defaced or which is being put to unlawful use, and where any document is so impounded, the inspector shall issue a receipt in respect thereof to the person concerned; 30
 - (f) require the owner, operator, driver or person in charge of any vehicle forthwith to furnish his or her name and address, and give any other particulars required as to his or her identification, and where applicable, immediately to produce a professional driving permit; 35

- (g) demand from any person immediately to produce a licence or any other prescribed authorization authorizing him or her to drive a motor vehicle, and to produce any other document which he or she is required to have in respect of any motor vehicle in terms of this Act; 5
- (h) impound any licence or document produced to him or her in terms of paragraph (g) which in his or her opinion may afford evidence of a contravention or evasion of any provision of this Act, and where any licence or document is so impounded, the inspector shall issue a receipt in respect thereof to the person concerned; 10
- (i) require any person, whether or not such person is in any vehicle, to furnish his or her name and address and to give any other particulars required as to his or her identification, as well as such information as is within his or her power to furnish and which may lead to the identification of the owner, operator or driver of such vehicle; 15
- (j) require any person to furnish him or her with any information as is within the power of such person to furnish and which may lead to the identification of the driver, owner, operator or person in charge of a vehicle at any time or during any period; or
- (k) at any reasonable time, having regard to the circumstances of the case, without prior notice, and in the exercise of any power or the performance of any duty which he or she is in terms of this Act authorized or required to exercise or perform, enter any premises on which he or she has reason to believe that any vehicle is kept. 20

Powers and duties of examiner of vehicles

25

- 8. (1) An examiner of vehicles may inspect, examine or test any vehicle in order to determine whether it is roadworthy and for that purpose may dismantle the vehicle or any part thereof or its equipment or accessories: Provided that he or she shall reassemble any vehicle so dismantled unless he or she is requested by the person in charge of the vehicle not to do so. 30

- (2) An examiner of vehicles may drive any vehicle when necessary in the performance of his or her duties, if, in the case of a motor vehicle, he or she is licensed to drive a motor vehicle of the class concerned: Provided that in the case of a physically disabled person the examiner of vehicles may request the holder of an appropriate driving licence to drive the vehicle adapted for physically disabled persons subject to his or her instruction and in his or her presence.

5

Powers and duties of examiner for driving licences

9. (1) An examiner for driving licences shall test any applicant for a learner's licence or driving licence in the manner and in regard to the matters as prescribed by the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, in order to determine whether such applicant is fit and competent to obtain a learner's or driving licence for the class of vehicle for which he or she applies.

10

- (2) No examiner for driving licenses shall test an applicant for a driving licence in terms of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, unless such examiner himself or herself is licensed to drive a vehicle of the class for which the applicant applies to obtain a driving licence or of the class as prescribed.

15

20

Powers and duties of traffic officer

10. In addition to the powers and duties conferred upon him or her elsewhere in this Act, a traffic officer may, subject to the provisions of this Act and any other law -

25

- (a) exercise or perform any of the powers or duties conferred upon an inspector of licences under section 7;

- (b) when in uniform, require the driver of any vehicle to stop such vehicle;

30

- (c) inspect and test or cause to be inspected and tested by a person whom he or she considers competent to do so, any part and the functioning of any vehicle, and the equipment thereof, with a view to ascertaining whether such vehicle or the functioning thereof and the equipment comply with the provisions of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996: Provided that no such officer or person instructed by the officer to inspect or test such vehicle shall, in the exercise of the power hereby conferred upon him or her, dismantle the mechanism or any working parts of any motor vehicle unless he or she is also a qualified motor mechanic or has passed an examination for examiners of vehicles as prescribed, and if he or she has so dismantled such vehicle, he or she shall reassemble the dismantled mechanism or parts unless he or she is requested by the person in charge of the vehicle not to do so; 5 10
- (d) ascertain the dimensions of the load on, or the mass, axle mass load or axle unit mass load of, any vehicle, or the mass of any combination of vehicles, laden or unladen, and, if necessary for the purpose of ascertaining such mass, require any vehicle or combination of vehicles to proceed to a massmeter or mass-measuring device, and if the mass of any vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeds the mass allowed in terms of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, prohibit the operation of such vehicle or combination of vehicles on a public road until such mass has been reduced or adjusted to comply with the National Road Traffic Act, 1996: Provided that where the load on a vehicle includes any hazardous substance as contemplated in the Hazardous Substances Act, 1973 (Act No 15 of 1973), the reduction and handling of the mass shall be undertaken in terms of that Act; 15 20 25
- (e) drive any vehicle when necessary in the performance of his or her duties if, in the case of a motor vehicle, he or she is licensed to drive a motor vehicle of the class concerned; 30
- (f) if a person, being the driver or apparently in charge of a vehicle, appears to such officer, by reason of his or her physical or mental condition, howsoever arising, to be incapable for the time being of driving or being in charge of such vehicle, temporarily forbid such person to continue to drive or be in charge of such vehicle and make such arrangements for the safe disposal or placing of the vehicle as in his or her opinion may be necessary or desirable in the circumstances; 35

- (g) regulate and control traffic upon any public road, and give such directions as may, in his or her opinion, be necessary for the safe and efficient regulation of the traffic, which may include the closing of any public road, and, where he or she is of the opinion that the driver of a motor vehicle is hampering or impeding the normal flow of traffic on a public road, direct the driver to remove the vehicle from such road and to follow another route with the vehicle; 5
- (h) require any person to furnish his or her name and address and give any other particulars which are required for his or her identification or for any process if such officer reasonably suspects such person of having committed an offence in terms of this Act or if in the opinion of such officer he or she is able to give evidence in regard to the commission or suspected commission of any such offence; 10
- (i) in respect of any motor vehicle, demand from the owner, operator or driver thereof to produce any document prescribed in terms of this Act; 15
- (j) impound any document referred to in paragraph (i) produced to him or her and which in his or her opinion may afford evidence of a contravention of or failure to comply with any provision of this Act and where any document is so impounded, the traffic officer shall issue a receipt therefor to the person concerned; 20
- (k) require any professional driver or the operator or owner of any motor vehicle to produce for inspection and to have a copy made of— 25
 - (i) any record or document which that person is required in terms of this Act to carry or have in his or her possession or which is required to be affixed to any such motor vehicle; or
 - (ii) any record which that person is required in terms of this Act to preserve; 30
- (l) at any time enter any motor vehicle of an operator and inspect such vehicle;
- (m) at any time enter upon any premises on which he or she has reason to believe that a motor vehicle of an operator is kept or any record or other document required to be kept in terms of this Act are to be found, and inspect such vehicle, and inspect and copy any such record or document, which he or she finds there; 35

- (n) if he or she has reason to believe that an offence in terms of this Act has been committed in respect of any record or document inspected by him or her, impound that record or document, and where any document is so impounded, the traffic officer shall issue a receipt therefor to the person concerned; 5
- (o) inspect any motor vehicle or part thereof and impound any document issued in connection with the registration and licensing of such motor vehicle which relates to the motor vehicle, where it is found that the engine or chassis number of the motor vehicle differs from the engine or chassis number as specified on the document, and direct that the motor vehicle be taken, forthwith, to any police station specified by the traffic officer for police clearance, and may, after such clearance has been obtained, return the impounded document to any person who is entitled thereto, or notify the owner of the motor vehicle concerned that the vehicle must be re-registered, as the case may be; and 10 15
- (p) require from the owner, operator or driver of a motor vehicle registered or deemed to be registered in any prescribed territory, police clearance in respect of the motor vehicle before allowing the motor vehicle to be taken across the borders of the Republic: Provided that the MEC may exempt any owner, operator or driver in the prescribed manner from having to provide such police clearance. 20

Failure to comply with instruction or direction of inspector of licences, traffic officer, examiner of vehicles or peace officer 25

11. (1) No person shall—
- (a) fail to comply with any instruction or direction given to him or her by an inspector of licences, traffic officer or examiner of vehicles, or obstruct, hinder or interfere with any inspector of licences, traffic officer or examiner of vehicles in the exercise of any power or the performance of any duty in terms of this Act; 30

- (b) fail to comply with any instruction or direction given to him or her by a peace officer, or obstruct, hinder or interfere with any peace officer in the exercise of any power relating to a provision of this Act assigned to him or her in terms of section 334 of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No 51 of 1977); 5
- (c) in order to compel a person referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) to perform or to abstain from performing any act in respect of the exercise of his or her powers or the performance of his or her duties, or on account of such person having performed or abstained from performing such an act, threaten or suggest the use of violence against or restraint upon such person or any of his or her relatives or dependants, or threaten or suggest any injury to the property of such person or of any of his or her relatives or dependants. 10
- (2) Whenever the production of any document which is not required to be affixed to a vehicle or to be kept with him or her in a vehicle by any person, is demanded under sections 7(b), 7(g) or 10(i), the production thereof at any police station or office set aside by a competent authority for use by a traffic officer or peace officer, within a period of seven days after being so demanded, shall be deemed to be sufficient compliance with the demand. 15 20
- (3) Whenever any document is produced under subsection (2) at any police station or office referred to in that subsection, the officer in charge of such police station or office so set aside shall forthwith notify accordingly the officer who made the demand concerned and shall issue an acknowledgement of production of such document to the person producing it. 25
- (4) Where a document is not produced under subsection (2) and any process is to be handed to or served upon a person in terms of section 54, 56, 72 or 341 of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977, an inspector of licences, traffic officer or peace officer may require the imprint of the left thumb of the person to whom the process relates on such process, and such person shall be obliged to furnish such imprint in the manner and at the place or places on that document and copies thereof as directed by the inspector, officer or examiner concerned: Provided that if it is not possible to obtain the left thumb print of such person, the imprint of any other finger may be required, in which case the finger thus used shall be identified in writing by the inspector, officer or examiner concerned under each imprint of such finger. 30 35 40

Impersonating authorized officer or peace officer or inducing any such officer to forsake his or her duty

12. (1) Any person not being an authorized officer or a peace officer shall not by word, conduct or demeanour, pretend that he or she is an authorized officer or a peace officer. 5
- (2) No person shall connive with or induce or attempt to induce any authorized officer or peace officer to omit to carry out his or her duty or to commit an act in conflict with his or her duty. 10

CHAPTER III

INSTRUCTORS 15

Instructor to be registered and graded

13. (1) No person shall act as an instructor unless he or she is registered and graded under section 15. 20
- (2) No person shall employ any other person as an instructor, or make use of his or her services as an instructor, unless such person is registered as an instructor under section 15. 25

Application for registration as instructor

14. (1) A person desiring to be registered as an instructor shall apply therefor to the MEC in the prescribed manner. 30
- (2) An application referred to in subsection (1) shall be accompanied by the prescribed fees.

Registration and grading of instructors

15. If the MEC is satisfied that an applicant referred to in section 14 fulfils the competency and grading qualifications as prescribed pertaining to the specific category of application, he or she shall register and grade such applicant in the prescribed manner. 35

Suspension and cancellation of registration of instructor

16. The MEC may, for the period that he or she deems fit, suspend, or cancel, in the prescribed manner, the registration of an instructor if such instructor— 40

- (a) in the opinion of the MEC is guilty of misconduct in the exercise of his or her powers or the performance of his or her duties; or
- (b) failed to attend an appropriate refresher course at a training centre approved by the MEC within a prescribed period.

5

CHAPTER IV

INSPECTORATE OF TESTING STATIONS AND DRIVING LICENCE TESTING CENTRES

10

Appointment of inspectorate of testing stations

17. (1) The MEC may designate a person, authority or organization as a provincial inspectorate of testing stations.
- (2) The powers and duties of the said inspectorate of testing stations in relation to the inspection and the control of standards, grading and functioning of testing stations shall be as prescribed.
- (3) The MEC may, in order to defray the expenditure incurred by or on behalf of the said inspectorate for the purposes of performing its functions, prescribe fees to be paid in respect of every examination conducted or test carried out regarding the roadworthiness of a motor vehicle.

15

20

25

Appointment of inspectorate of driving licence testing centres

18. (1) The MEC may designate a person, authority or organization as a provincial inspectorate of driving licence testing centres.
- (2) The powers and duties of the inspectorate in relation to the inspection and the control of standards, grading and functioning of driving licence testing centres shall be as prescribed.
- (3) The MEC may, in order to defray the expenditure incurred by or on behalf of the said inspectorate for the purposes of performing its functions, prescribe fees to be paid in respect of inspections carried out in terms of this section.

30

35

CHAPTER V

PARKING FEES

Power of local authority to collect parking fees

5

19. (1) A local authority may, by resolution and for the purposes mentioned in subsection (3)(a), charge fees in respect of the parking of vehicles on any public road or section thereof within its area of jurisdiction.

10

(2) The fees referred to in subsection (1) may differ in respect of different public roads or different sections of the same public road.

(3) (a) If a parking meter is installed for the purpose of collecting fees or with a view to controlling traffic, it shall be installed in conjunction with a demarcated parking bay or bays and shall bear thereon a legend indicating the days and hours when payment shall be made for parking and the amount payable for a specific period of parking.

15

(b) If any method other than a parking meter is used to collect the fees referred to in subsection (1), provision shall be made for a sign to be displayed at the parking area concerned indicating the days and hours when payment shall be made for parking, the amount payable for a specific period of parking and the manner of payment for a specific period of parking.

20

(4) (a) The period of time for which a vehicle may be lawfully parked in a parking bay referred to in subsection (3)(a), shall, unless the contrary is proved, be as measured by the parking meter for such parking bay.

25

(b) If any method other than a parking meter is used to collect the fees referred to in subsection (1), the period of time for which a vehicle may be lawfully parked in a parking area referred to in subsection (3)(b), shall, unless the contrary is proved, be as measured by means of the method concerned in respect of the vehicle concerned.

30

(5) Any local authority may establish upon a public road within its area of jurisdiction ranks or stands (to be known as special parking places) for the parking of passenger-carrying motor vehicles or any class thereof, as prescribed, and may make by-laws for the regulation and control of the use of those special parking places—

35

- (a) to provide for the issue of permits allocating particular special parking places or subdivisions thereof to particular persons or vehicles for their exclusive use;
- (b) to prohibit the use of any special parking place or subdivision so allocated by any other person or vehicle; 5
- (c) to charge fees in respect of the use of special parking places; and
- (d) to provide for matters incidental thereto, 10

Provided that provision may be made in any permit or in any renewal thereof for the limitation of the hours during which the holder shall have the exclusive use of a particular special parking place and during which the use thereof by any other person or vehicle is prohibited. 15

- (6) In the first allocation of any special parking place or subdivision referred to in subsection (5), the local authority shall as far as possible have regard to the length of time during which the applicant has already transported passengers for reward by the class of vehicle concerned. 20
- (7) By-laws made under subsection (5) shall provide for the annual renewal, subject to the good conduct of the applicant, of the right to use any such special parking place or subdivision thereof. 25
- (8) All fees collected by a local authority by means of a parking meter, or in respect of any parking area or special parking place as contemplated in this section, shall, except with the approval of the MEC, be used only to defray the cost of, and incidental to, any scheme, work or undertaking for the improvement or regulation of traffic conditions within the area of such local authority, including the costs of installing and maintaining any such parking meter, parking area or special parking place. 30
- (9) The exercise by a local authority of its powers under this section shall not render the authority subject to any liability in respect of the loss of or damage to any vehicle or the contents or fittings of any such vehicle while such vehicle is in a parking bay, parking area or special parking place. 35

CHAPTER VI

PRESUMPTIONS AND LEGAL PROCEDURE

Presumption in regard to public road, freeway and public road in urban area

5

20. (1) Where in any prosecution in terms of this Act it is alleged that an offence was committed on a public road, the road concerned shall, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, be presumed to be a public road.

10

- (2) Where in any prosecution in terms of this Act it is alleged that an offence was committed on a freeway, the road concerned shall, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, be deemed to be a freeway.

- (3) Where in any prosecution in terms of this Act it is alleged that an offence was committed on a public road in an urban area, the road concerned shall, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, be presumed to be a public road in an urban area.

15

Presumption that owner drove or parked vehicle

20

21. (1) Where in any prosecution in terms of this Act, it is material to prove who the driver of a vehicle was, the fact that a person is the owner of such vehicle, shall be *prima facie* proof that he or she drove such vehicle.

- (2) Whenever a vehicle is parked in contravention of any provision of this Act or a by-law made thereunder, the fact that a person is the owner of such vehicle, shall be *prima facie* proof that he or she parked such vehicle.

25

- (3) For the purposes of subsections (1) and (2), the fact that the owner of the vehicle concerned is a corporate body, shall be *prima facie* proof that such vehicle was driven or parked, as contemplated in those subsections, by a director or servant of the corporate body in the exercise of his or her powers or in the performance of his or her duties as such director or servant or in furthering or endeavouring to further the interests of the corporate body.

30

35

Presumption in regard to officers

22. In any prosecution in terms of this Act, the fact that any person purports to act or has purported to act as a traffic officer, an inspector of licences, an examiner of vehicles or an examiner for driving licences, shall be *prima facie* proof of his or her appointment and authority so to act: Provided that this section shall not apply to a prosecution on a charge relating to impersonation. 5

CHAPTER VII

APPEALS

Right of appeal to Premier

23. (1) Any person, department of State or registering authority who or which is aggrieved— 15
- (a) at the refusal of the MEC to register or grade him or her, as the case may be, in any capacity mentioned in the definition of authorized officer, or as driving licence testing centre, or as a testing station, or as an instructor; 20
 - (b) at the suspension or cancellation of any such registration or grading; or
 - (c) at any other decision of the MEC regarding the activities of an operator,
- may within 21 days after such refusal, suspension, cancellation or decision, in writing lodge an appeal to the Premier against such refusal, suspension, cancellation or decision, and such person, department of State or registering authority shall at the same time serve a copy of the appeal on the MEC. 25
- (2) After receipt of the copy of the appeal referred to in subsection (1), the MEC shall forthwith furnish the Premier with his or her reasons for the refusal, suspension, cancellation or decision to which the appeal refers. 30
- (3) The Premier may after considering an appeal under subsection (1), give the decision he or she deems fit. 35
- (4) An appeal referred to in subsection (1), shall include an appeal against any refusal, suspension, cancellation or decision of the MEC taken in terms of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996. 40

Right of appeal to MEC

24. (1) Any person who is aggrieved at the refusal of an examiner for driving licences to issue or authorize the issue to him or her of a learner's or driving licence, may, within 21 days after such refusal, in writing appeal to the MEC, and such person shall at the same time serve a copy of the appeal on the examiner concerned. 5
- (2) Any person who is aggrieved at the refusal of an examiner of vehicles or a testing station to issue a roadworthy certificate in respect of a motor vehicle or to authorize the issue of such certificate to him or her, or at the conditions subject to which such certificate was issued to him or her, may, within 21 days after such refusal or after the issue of the certificate subject to the conditions concerned, in writing appeal against any such refusal or conditions concerned to the MEC, and such person shall at the same time serve a copy of the appeal on the examiner or the testing station concerned. 10 15
- (3) After receipt of the copy of the appeal referred to in subsections (1) and (2), the examiner for driving licences or the examiner of vehicles or the testing station, as the case may be, shall forthwith furnish the MEC with his or her reasons for the refusal to which such appeal refers. 20
- (4) For the purpose of deciding an appeal under subsection (1), the MEC may appoint any person to examine and test the appellant as to his or her competency to drive the class of motor vehicle concerned and may in addition, require each party to the appeal to furnish such information and evidence as he or she deems expedient. 25
- (5) For the purpose of deciding an appeal under subsection (2), the MEC may—
- (a) where the appeal concerns a roadworthy certificate, cause the motor vehicle concerned to be examined and tested by an examiner of vehicles nominated by him or her; and 30
- (b) require each party to the appeal to furnish such information and evidence as he or she deems necessary. 35
- (6) The MEC may after considering the appeal concerned give the decision he or she deems fit.

- (7) An appeal referred to in subsections (1) and (2), shall include an appeal against any refusal, suspension, cancellation or decision taken by any person in terms of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996.

CHAPTER VIII

5

REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS

Power of MEC to make regulations

10

25. (1) The MEC may make regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, in respect of any matter contemplated, required or permitted to be prescribed in terms of this Act and generally for the better carrying out of the provisions or objects of this Act, and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions, with respect to —

15

- (a) in the case of a motor vehicle, the colour and character of the registration mark or number to be displayed in terms of the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, and the means to be applied to render any such mark or number easily distinguishable, whether by night or by day, when any such vehicle is operated on a public road;

20

- (b) the method of determining any fact which is required for the purposes of this Act;

25

- (c) any form, process or token which the MEC may deem expedient for the purposes of this Act and the nature and extent of any information to be furnished for the purpose of any such form;

30

- (d) the issue of a duplicate certificate, licence or other documentation or token issued in terms of this Act if the original has been lost, destroyed or defaced or any particulars thereon have become illegible;

- (e) the dress, including insignia, of traffic officers and of traffic wardens appointed under section 3;

35

- (f) the fees that may or is to be charged for any purpose in terms of this Act, or in respect of any registration, application, authorization or examination, or the issue of any document or copy of such document, referred to in the National Road Traffic Act, 1996; 5
- (g) the fees that may or is to be charged in respect of the registration and licensing of motor vehicles as contemplated in the National Road Traffic Act, 1996.
- (2) The power to make regulations for any purpose referred to in subsection (1), shall include the power to restrict or prohibit any matter or thing in relation to that purpose either absolutely or conditionally. 10
- (3) Any regulation under this section may be made to apply generally throughout the province or within any specified part thereof or to any specified category of vehicle or person. 15
- (4) Any regulation made under subsection (1) may provide that any person contravening a provision thereof or failing to comply therewith, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year. 20
- (5) Before the MEC makes any regulation under this section, he or she may, if he or she deems it expedient, cause a draft of the proposed regulation to be published in the *Provincial Gazette* together with a notice calling upon all interested persons to lodge in writing, and within a period stated in the notice, but not less than four weeks as from the date of publication of the notice, any objections or representations which they would like to raise or make, with the Director-General for submission to the MEC: 25
- Provided that, if the MEC thereafter decides to alter the draft regulations as a result of any objections or representations submitted thereanent, it shall not be necessary so to publish such alterations before making the regulations. 30

Power of local authority to make by-laws

26. (1) Subject to the provisions of any law in relation to the procedure to be followed in the making, approval and promulgation of any by-law by a local authority, any local authority may make by-laws not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act or the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, in respect of — 35

- (a) the safety of traffic on any public road, the duty of any user of such road and the use of any such road by any vehicle;
- (b) subject to the provisions of the Businesses Act, 1991 (Act No 71 of 1991), and any regulation or by-law made thereunder in relation to the restriction, regulation or control of the carrying on of the business of street vendor, pedlar or hawker, the stopping with and parking of any vehicle on any public road or portion thereof, including by-laws relating to the installation, regulation, supervision, maintenance and control of parking meters and parking places; 5
10
- (c) the appointment and licensing of parking attendants and the withdrawal of any such licence;
- (d) the driver or conductor of, or other person employed in connection with, a vehicle plying for hire or accepting passengers for hire; 15
- (e) subject to the provisions of the Businesses Act, 1991, and any regulation or by-law made thereunder in relation to the restriction, regulation or control of the carrying on of the business of street vendor, pedlar or hawker, any public road which is not to be used by any vehicle, either generally or at specific times; 20
- (f) the relative position on the public road of traffic of differing speeds and classes; 25
- (g) the place where and time when a vehicle may not turn so as to face in the opposite direction to that in which it was proceeding or where it may only so turn under specified conditions;
- (h) the loading and off-loading of any vehicle on a public road; 30
- (i) the rules as to priority of entry of certain motor vehicles into a main thoroughfare;
- (j) the use of a hooter, bell or other warning device and the conditions under which any such warning device may be used within any specified area, whether at all times or during specified periods; 35

- (k) the appointment of an advisory traffic control board consisting of not fewer than three members to advise the local authority on all questions of traffic control;
 - (l) the use of any public road by traffic in general; 5
 - (m) the limitation of the age of drivers of vehicles drawn by animals;
 - (n) any form or token which a local authority may deem expedient for the purposes of any by-law, and the nature and extent of any information to be furnished for the purpose of any such form; 10
 - (o) the enabling of any local authority in the event of any person failing to do anything required of him or her in terms of any by-law, to do such act and to recover the expenses thereof from the person so in default; 15
 - (p) the mass of any goods which or the number of passengers who or animals which may be conveyed on a pedal cycle;
 - (q) the regulation, restriction, prohibition or control of the parking upon public roads of vehicles owned, kept or used by dealers or which have been placed in their custody or under their control in the course of any dealer's business carried on by them; and 20
 - (r) any other matter in regard to which a local authority may make by-laws in terms of this Act. 25
- (2) The power to make by-laws for any purpose referred to in subsection (1), shall include the power to restrict or prohibit any matter or thing in relation to that purpose, either absolutely or conditionally. 30
- (3) Any by-law under subsection (1) may be made to apply generally throughout the area of the local authority or within any specified part thereof or to any specified category of vehicle or person.

- (4) In so far as any by-law of a local authority, whether made in terms of this Act or any other law, may be inconsistent with any regulation in terms of this Act or the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, the regulation shall prevail.
- (5) Any by-law made under this section may provide that any person contravening a provision thereof or failing to comply therewith, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine, or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

Local authority may determine fees

27. A local authority may, by special resolution, determine the fees to be charged for any purpose contemplated in section 26.

CHAPTER IX

REGISTERS AND RECORDS

Registers or records to be kept

28. (1) The registers or records as may be prescribed shall be kept by—
- (a) an enforcement authority;
- (b) any local authority; and
- (c) any person determined by the MEC by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*.
- (2) The prescribed particulars shall be recorded in the prescribed manner in the registers and records referred to in subsection (1).
- (3) Any institution or person referred to in subsection (1), shall in the prescribed manner and at the prescribed intervals, furnish the MEC or any person or body designated by the MEC with the information recorded in a register or record of such institution or person, and the MEC shall from the information so furnished compile or cause to be compiled the register he or she deems fit.

- (4) The MEC may prescribe that any institution or person referred to in subsection (1), shall keep the additional registers or records he or she deems expedient.

Copy of entry in register or record to be *prima facie* proof

29. (1) A document purporting to be an extract from, or a copy of, any register or record kept in terms of this Act and purporting to be certified as such, shall in any court and upon all occasions be admissible as evidence and shall be *prima facie* proof of the truth of the matters stated in such document without the production of the original register or record or any certificate, licence, other document, microfiche, microfilm or computerized record from or of which such extract or copy was made. 5 10
- (2) The information contained in a register or record kept for the purposes of this Act shall be furnished to— 15
- (a) a traffic officer or inspector of licences who requires it for the carrying out of his or her duties; 20
- (b) any person authorized thereto by the MEC to demand such furnishing; 25
- (c) any department of State; or
- (d) a local authority.
- (3) Any institution or person keeping a register or record under section 28 shall at the request of any person and upon payment of the prescribed fees— 30
- (a) confirm whether or not certain information corresponds to the information contained in such register or record, if in the opinion of such institution or person that person, on reasonable grounds requires confirmation of such information; or 35
- (b) furnish the information referred to in paragraph (a) to that person if, in the opinion of such institution or person, he or she on reasonable grounds requires that such information be furnished to him or her.

Cognisance may be taken of information contained in register or record

30. The MEC may, in exercising a discretion or taking a decision in terms of this Act, take cognisance of the information contained in a register or record contemplated in section 28.

5

CHAPTER X**GENERAL PROVISIONS****Parking of medical personnel**

10

31. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any law, a local authority may exempt in the circumstances and subject to the conditions it deems expedient —

(a) a medical practitioner; or

15

(b) a registered nurse or midwife as defined in section 1 of the Nursing Act, 1978 (Act No 50 of 1978),

from the provisions of any law relating to the parking of a motor vehicle within its area of jurisdiction.

20

Special provisions relating to parking

32. (1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any law, a local authority may exempt in the prescribed circumstances and subject to the prescribed conditions—

25

(a) any person who, in the opinion of the local authority, has a prescribed physical disability; or

30

(b) any person who is conveying or assisting a person referred to in paragraph (a),

from the provisions of any law relating to the parking of a motor vehicle within its area of jurisdiction.

35

- (2) A local authority may, and shall in the prescribed circumstances, provide special parking places for the exclusive parking of vehicles driven by persons referred to in subsection (1), and such parking places shall be identified by a road traffic sign.

- (3) A local authority shall control the use of the parking places referred to in subsection (2) in the prescribed manner.
- (4) The local authority concerned shall issue to a person referred to in subsection (1) proof of such exemption. 5

MEC may authorize certain refunds

33. (1) The MEC may, if he or she is satisfied that any amount paid by a person was in excess of the amount properly chargeable in terms of this Act, authorize a refund of such amount or of any part thereof to such person. 10
- (2) The MEC shall not authorize any refund under this section unless the claim therefor is received by the registering authority or the provincial administration within three years after the date of the payment concerned. 15

Registering authority subject to inspection by Auditor-General

34. The Auditor-General may at any time cause an inspection to be made of the records of a registering authority, and the revenues collected by such authority in terms of this Act. 20

Inspections for ensuring that provisions of this Act are being given effect to

35. (1) The MEC may authorize any person to carry out any inspection which the MEC deems necessary in order to ensure that the provisions of this Act are being complied with. 25
- (2) No person shall obstruct or hinder any person in the carrying out of any inspection referred to in subsection (1). 30

Variation of prescribed form

36. The MEC may, in the circumstances he or she deems expedient, authorize a registering or other authority to use, in substitution for a form prescribed for a particular purpose, a form which varies from the prescribed form, and in respect of that authority the varied form shall be deemed to be the prescribed form for that purpose. 35

Signature upon documents

37. Any person who is unable to sign his or her name shall, whenever his or her signature is required upon any document in terms of this Act, impress in place thereof his or her left thumb print upon the space within which he or she would otherwise have been required to sign his or her name, and if his or her left thumb print is not available, he or she shall substitute therefor another of his or her fingerprints, and in such latter event the document so marked shall then be endorsed by the officer in whose presence the print was made, identifying the finger used.

5

10

Service of notices

38. (1) Whenever in terms of this Act any notice is authorized or required to be served upon or issued to any person, such notice shall either be served personally upon the person to whom it is addressed or be sent to him or her by registered post to his or her last known address: Provided that the address furnished by the holder of a driving licence at the time of his or her application for such licence or recorded against his or her name in a register of driving licences, or the address recorded against the registration of a vehicle in a register of motor vehicles as the address of the owner of such vehicle, shall serve as his or her domicile of summons and execution for all purposes arising from or for the purposes of this Act, for the service of notices, post or processes on such person.
- (2) Service by registered post under subsection (1) shall be deemed to have been effected on the tenth day after the date stamped upon the receipt for registration issued by the post office which accepted the notice.
- (3) A certificate by the officer who issued the notice referred to in subsection (1), or by a person subordinate to such officer, stating the time, place and manner of issuing the notice, shall be *prima facie* proof that the notice was duly issued.

15

20

25

30

State bound

39. This Act shall bind the State and any person in the service of the State: Provided that the MEC may, by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*, exempt the State or any department thereof or any such person from any provision of this Act, subject to the conditions the MEC may determine.

35

Offences and penalties

40. (1) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of this Act or with any direction, condition, demand, determination, requirement, term or request thereunder, shall be guilty of an offence. 5
- (2) Any person convicted of an offence under subsection (1) read with section 11(1), shall be liable to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three years. 10
- (3) Any person convicted of an offence in terms of any other provision of this Act, shall be liable to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year.
- (4) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any law, a magistrate's court shall be competent to impose any penalty provided for in this Act. 15

Apportionment of fees

41. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2) all fees paid in terms of this Act, excluding fees paid to a testing station which is not a registering authority, shall be paid into the Provincial Revenue Fund. 20
- (2) The fees referred to in subsection (1) shall be administered as prescribed.

Apportionment of fines

42. (1) Subject to sections 6 and 8 of the Finance and Financial Adjustments Acts Consolidation Act, 1977 (Act No 11 of 1977), and section 341(2)(b) of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No 51 of 1977), all fines imposed or moneys estreated as bail in respect of any offence in terms of this Act and the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, shall be paid into the Provincial Revenue Fund. 30
- (2) All fines imposed and moneys estreated as bail in respect of any offence under any by-law made in terms of this Act, shall be paid to the authority to which any such by-law is applicable. 35

Delegation

43. (1) The MEC may in writing —
- (a) delegate to any other person any power conferred upon him or her by or under this Act; and 5
- (b) authorize any other person to perform any duty assigned to the MEC by or under this Act, 10
- and may effect such delegation or grant such authorization subject to the conditions he or she deems fit.
- (2) Any delegation effected or authorization granted under subsection (1), may at any time be withdrawn by the MEC. 15

Repeal of laws and savings

44. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), the laws mentioned in the Schedule are hereby repealed to the extent indicated in the third column thereof. 20
- (2) Any proclamation, regulation, by-law, notice, order, prohibition, authority, appointment, permission, information or document made, issued, imposed, granted, furnished or given and any other action taken in terms of any provision of a law repealed by the National Road Traffic Act, 1996, shall be deemed to have been made, issued, imposed, granted, furnished, given or taken in terms of the corresponding provision of this Act (if any). 25 30
- (3) A relevant provision of the Road Traffic Act, 1989 (Act No 29 of 1989), shall, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), remain in force until such time as the corresponding provision of this Act (if any) has been put into operation under section 45(2). 35

Short title and commencement

45. (1) This Act shall be called the Free State Provincial Road Traffic Act, 1998, and shall come into operation on a date fixed by the MEC by notice in the *Provincial Gazette*. 40

- (2) Different dates may be so fixed in respect of different provisions of this Act, and dates so fixed may differ in respect of different—
- (a) persons or goods or categories of persons or goods transported by means of a motor vehicle; 5
 - (b) kinds or classes of motor vehicles used in the transportation of persons or goods;
 - (c) persons or categories of persons; or 10
 - (d) areas in the province.
- (3) More than one of the elements referred to in paragraphs (a) to (d), inclusive, of subsection (2) may be combined for the purposes of that subsection. 15

SCHEDULE

No and year of law	Short title	Extent of repeal
Act No 7 of 1973	Bophuthatswana Road Traffic Act, 1973	The whole
Act No 8 of 1980	Qwaqwa Road Traffic Act, 1980	The whole