

**STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 7-2018**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER EXEMPTING CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
TRANSFER OF HAY FORAGE STATEWIDE IN MONTANA**

WHEREAS, the effects of the severe winter continue to be felt by agricultural and livestock producers in Montana, and there remains a substantial need to transport hay in support of relief efforts;

WHEREAS, relieving certain requirements for commercial motor vehicle carrier vehicles in Montana will assist Montanans by reducing restrictions on the transport of hay forage, including those requirements provided in §§ 61-10-102, 61-10-154, 61-10-121, 61-10-211, 15-70-456, MCA, and A.R.M. §§ 18.8.509, 18.8.1502;

WHEREAS, under § 61-10-111, MCA, the Governor may, through executive order, exempt vehicles from certain size and weight limits for a specified, limited period of time during emergency circumstances, including conditions brought about by a weather event or other natural occurrence for which the movement of vehicles that may exceed size and weight limits is necessary for responding to the event or occurrence or for moving supplies, agricultural, or other products.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, pursuant to the authority vested in me under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Montana, Title 61, Chapter 10, Section 111, MCA, and under other applicable statutes, do hereby order the Director of the Montana Department of Transportation to:

- (1) allow baled livestock feed for winter weather relief efforts with a destination within the boundaries of Montana to exceed the statutory limits of weight by 20 percent, provided that the manufacturers' rated capacity for the vehicle, axle, or tires is not exceeded, on all highways in the state except those that are part of the federal aid interstate system; and
- (2) allow nighttime transport of oversized hay for loads. To ensure highway safety of nighttime loads, carriers are encouraged to meet the lighting requirements of A.R.M. § 18.8.509 for loads over 10 feet in width. For loads over 12 feet 6 inches, front flag vehicles should be used.

Commercial vehicle carriers, while operating under this Order, may not require or allow fatigued drivers to operate a motor vehicle.

This Order is effective immediately and confers emergency exemption authority for thirty days from the date of signing, unless revoked prior to expiration by issuance of a directive to the Montana Department of Transportation.



GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana this 28 day of March, 2018.



STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:

Cory Stapleton by Alisa Cottrell,
COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State deputy