

**HB 15-1089 – KEI Class Truck Authorization**  
Sponsors: Rep. Primavera |  
House Committee: Transportation and Energy

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Purpose:

- To license “KEI” (mini) class trucks in the State of Colorado with the same regulations as standard passenger vehicles

Background:

- Currently, KEI class trucks are not authorized to drive on roads in Colorado. However, farmers use them commonly for hauling farm equipment, animals, and other goods on private property, but they cannot drive them on the rural roads that surround their property. Many other businesses use them for similar purposes.
- 20 other states have them authorized for driving on public roads.
- KEI class trucks are safer than motorcycles and scooters which are authorized to be driven on state and county roads.
- Since 1998 KEI trucks have conformed to Japanese and European standards. Before 1998 there was not testing
- According to the Nebraska Department of Transportation, 184 mini-class trucks were authorized to drive in Nebraska from 2013-2014 (the first year after an authorization bill was passed).
  - Nebraska charges an annual \$50.00 motor vehicle tax, an annual \$10.00 “mini-truck” fee and a standard \$15.00 annual registration fee.
- KEI Class Truck Specifics:
  - Has a dry weight of 4200 pounds or less
  - Is 67 inches or less in width
  - Has a top speed of 55 mph
  - Is equipped with a bed for hauling
  - Has 4 or more tires

What this bill does:

- This bill authorizes KEI class trucks to drive on state and county roads.
- Provides consumers with the ability to purchase and register more fuel efficient and cost effective vehicles
- Provides current businesses the ability to register their KEI vehicles so that they can be legally driven on public roads
- Allows more fuel efficient and lower priced vehicles to compete in Colorado

Funding:

- All KEI class registered vehicle owners will pay a \$15.00 registration fee to the State of Colorado.





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Representative Dianne Primavera and Members of the House Transportation and Energy Committee,

The Colorado Livestock Association and its membership supports the passage of House Bill 15-1089 "Concerning Authorization To Drive A Kei Vehicle On Public Roadways If The Kei Vehicle Is Registered With The State."

Kei vehicles otherwise known as mini-trucks are extremely useful to many of our livestock producing members in rural areas across the state. This legislation will truly benefit rural Colorado livestock producers by providing them with an expanded resource for transportation that they otherwise could not have used on public roads.

Sincerely,

William Hammerich, Chief Executive Officer



The table below describes state laws that specifically address the use of minitrucks on public roads. In states without those laws, there may be provisions in other state laws, such as those permitting incidental use of off-road vehicles on public roads, that allow the limited use of minitrucks on public roads.

State	Where permitted	Speed restriction	Vehicle classification
Alabama	any road except interstate highways	25 mph	mini-truck
Arkansas	roads with a posted speed limit of 55 mph or less excluding interstate highways and controlled access highways if vehicle is being used exclusively for farm purposes	55 mph	mini-truck
California	located on a natural island with an area in excess of 20,000 acres and that is within a county having a population in excess of 4,000,000	no	autoette
Florida	roads with a posted speed limit of 35 mph or less	35 mph	mini truck
Idaho	local option	no	utility type vehicle (UTV)
Illinois	roads with a posted speed limit of less than 35 mph if allowed by local ordinance	25 mph	neighborhood vehicle
Kansas	public roads except interstate, federal or state highways; within corporate city limits if allowed under local ordinance	no	micro utility truck
Kentucky	local option	no	mini-truck
Louisiana	roads with a posted speed limit of 55 mph or less except interstate highways, controlled access highways, or multi-lane divided highways with partial or no control of access	no	mini-truck
Maine	roads with a posted speed limit of 35 mph or less	25 mph	low-speed vehicle
Minnesota	local option	local option	mini-truck
Missouri	local option	45 mph	utility vehicle

Nebraska	any road except interstate highways, freeways or expressways	no	minitruck
New Hampshire	roads with a posted speed limit of 35 mph or less located within 25 miles of the registrant's home or place of business	no	low-speed utility vehicle
North Dakota	any paved road except highways with a posted speed of more than 65 mph	55 mph	off-highway vehicle
Ohio	roads with a posted speed limit of less than 35 mph if allowed by local ordinance (effective 01/01/17)	35 mph (effective 01/01/17)	mini-truck (effective 01/01/17)
Oklahoma	any road except interstate highways	no	mini-truck
Tennessee	streets where the posted speed limit is less than 40 mph; a county or municipality may prohibit the operation of medium-speed vehicles on any road under its jurisdiction if the governing body of the county or municipality determines that such a prohibition is necessary in the interest of safety	35 mph	mini-truck
Utah	any road except an interstate freeway; limited access highway; street within a county of the first class; or a municipality that is within a county of the first class	45 mph	off-highway vehicle or street-legal all-terrain vehicle
Wyoming	any road except interstate highways	if a multipurpose vehicle is incapable of achieving the maximum speed allowed on the specific highway, it shall be operated on the extreme right hand edge of the roadway	multipurpose vehicle
Source: Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Highway Loss Data Institute, February 2015			