

*Their operation may be assisted by the service brakes or other source of power provided that failure of the service brake actuation system or other power assisting mechanism will not prevent the parking brakes from being applied in conformance with the foregoing requirements. The parking brakes shall be so designed that when once applied they shall remain applied with the required effectiveness despite exhaustion of any source of energy or leakage of any kind. The same brake drums, brake shoes and lining assemblies, brake shoe anchors and mechanical brake shoe actuation mechanism normally associated with the wheel brake assemblies may be used for both the service brakes and the parking brakes. If the means of applying the parking brakes and the service brakes are connected in any way, they shall be so constructed that failure of any one part shall not leave the vehicle without operative brakes.*

*(c) Brakes on all wheels—Every vehicle shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels except:*

*(1) Trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers of a gross weight not exceeding 3,000 pounds, provided that:*

*(i) The total weight on and including the wheels of the trailer or trailers shall not exceed 40 per cent of the gross weight of the towing vehicle when connected to the trailer or trailers, and*

*(ii) The combination of vehicles, consisting of the towing vehicle and its total towed load, is capable of complying with the performance requirements of section 12-302.*

*(2) Any vehicle being towed in driveaway or towaway operations, provided the combination of vehicles is capable of complying with the performance requirements of section 12-302.*

*(3) Trucks, truck-tractors and special mobile equipment having three or more axles need not have brakes on the front wheels, except that when the vehicles are equipped with at least two steerable axles, the wheels of one steerable axle need not have brakes. However, the trucks and truck-tractors must be capable of complying with the performance requirements of section 12-302.*

*(4) The wheel of a sidecar attached to a motorcycle or to a motor-driven cycle, or the front wheel of a motor-driven cycle need not be equipped with brakes, provided that the motorcycle or motor-driven cycle is capable of complying with the performance requirements of section 12-302.*

*(d) Automatic trailer brake application upon breakaway. Every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer equipped with air or vacuum actuated brakes, and every trailer, semitrailer, and pole trailer with a gross weight in excess of 3,000 pounds, manufactured or assembled after June 1, 1970, shall be equipped with brakes acting on all wheels and of a character to be applied automatically and promptly, and remain applied for at least fifteen minutes, upon breakaway from the towing vehicle.*

*(e) Tractor brakes protected. Every motor vehicle manufactured or assembled after June 1, 1970, and used to tow a trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer equipped with brakes, shall be equipped with means for providing that in case of breakaway of the towed*