

in this State unless the out-of-state tow truck operator is expressly authorized by the State Highway Administration to tow the vehicle.

(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, while engaged in towing, a tow truck registered under this section is subject to:

(1) Weight restrictions imposed on restricted bridges; and

(2) All applicable statutory weight and size restrictions under Title 24 of this article while being operated within the limits of Baltimore City, unless the vehicle is being operated on an interstate highway.

[(h)](G) Except for tow trucks operated by dealers, automotive dismantlers and recyclers, and scrap processors displaying special registration plates issued under Title 13 of this article, the vehicle shall display a distinctive registration plate as authorized by the Administration.

[(i)](H) A person who registers a tow truck under this section or [who obtains an annual blanket permit under subsection (f) of this section for] OPERATES a tow truck IN THIS STATE that is registered under the laws of another state shall:

(1) Obtain commercial liability insurance in the amount of at least \$100,000 per person, \$300,000 per occurrence bodily injury liability, and \$100,000 per occurrence property damage liability; and

(2) Provide a federal employer identification number and, if applicable to the tow truck under federal requirements:

(i) A U. S. Department of Transportation motor carrier number; or

(ii) An Interstate Commerce Commission motor carrier authority number.

[(j)](I) (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2) of this subsection, a person may not operate a rollback in combination with a vehicle being towed unless the rollback is registered as a [Class T (tow truck) vehicle under this section] TOW TRUCK.

(2) This subsection does not apply to a vehicle that is registered and operated in accordance with § 13-621 or § 13-622 of this article.

[(k)](J) (1) This subsection applies only to a vehicle required to be registered in the State.

(2) A person may not operate a tow truck for hire unless the tow truck is registered under this section.

(3) A person convicted of operating a tow truck in violation of this subsection shall be subject to a fine of up to \$3,000.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1996.

Approved May 14, 1996.