



96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

HB3669

Introduced 2/24/2009, by Rep. Elaine Nekritz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/12-614 new

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that if any portion of a motor vehicle hitch containing a ball mount and hitch receiver extends more than 4 inches beyond the motor vehicle's rear bumper, then the ball mount must be removed from the hitch receiver when the motor vehicle is not being used for towing. Provides that if any portion of a motor vehicle hitch extends more than 4 inches beyond the rear bumper of the motor vehicle and the hitch is composed of a single assembly that cannot be easily removed from the vehicle, then the ball of the hitch must be covered with a red cover. Defines "ball mount", "hitch receiver", and "motor vehicle hitch".

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1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by adding
5 Section 12-614 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/12-614 new)

7 Sec. 12-614. Motor vehicle hitches.

8 (a) As used in this Section,

9 "Ball mount" means the portion of a two-part motor vehicle
10 hitch that slides into the recessed portion of a hitch receiver
11 and that contains the connecting ball.

12 "Hitch receiver" means the portion of any two-part motor
13 vehicle hitch that is secured to the frame or undercarriage of
14 a motor vehicle.

15 "Motor vehicle hitch" means a one or two-part assembly that
16 is attached to a motor vehicle for the purpose of towing a
17 trailer behind the motor vehicle.

18 (b) If any portion of a motor vehicle hitch extends 4
19 inches or more beyond the motor vehicle's rear bumper, then the
20 ball mount must be removed from the hitch receiver when the
21 motor vehicle is not being used for towing. If any portion of a
22 motor vehicle hitch extends 4 inches or more beyond the rear
23 bumper of the motor vehicle and the hitch is composed of a

1 single assembly that cannot be easily removed from the motor
2 vehicle, then the ball of the hitch must be covered with a
3 bright red or orange cover that would alert drivers of other
4 motor vehicles to the presence of the motor vehicle hitch.