WHEREAS, Arkansas State Highway Commission Rule 17.1 prescribes the general safety requirements for motor vehicles operating under the jurisdiction of the Commission; and

WHEREAS, revisions to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs), require Rule 17.1 to be updated to ensure compliance with current federal regulations; and

WHEREAS, non-compliance with the FMCSRs could result in reduced Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) funding to the Arkansas Highway Police Division.

NOW THEREFORE, the Arkansas State Highway Commission hereby revises and adopts Rule 17.1 in accordance with Attachment A attached hereto and authorizes the Director to take the necessary steps to publish said rule.
ATTACHMENT A

Rule 17.1 General Safety Requirements

All rules and safety regulations now or hereafter prescribed and adopted by the U.S Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, applicable to motor vehicles under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations as found in 49 C.F.R. Parts 383 through 399, not in conflict with the laws of the State of Arkansas, are hereby adopted and prescribed as the safety rules and regulations applicable to the interstate and intrastate operations of motor vehicles under the jurisdiction of this Commission. In all instances within the provisions of 49 C.F.R. Parts 383 through 399 wherein the terms “special agent,” “special agent of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration,” or “authorized personnel” are utilized, including, but not limited to, 49 C.F.R. Parts 390.5, 390.15, 395.13 (a), 396.9 (a), 396.9 (c)(1), and 398.8, such terms shall include officers of the Arkansas Highway Police Division of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. For the purposes of Part 395.1(k), that period of time between January 1st and December 31st of each year is declared to be the planting and harvesting seasons in this State.