462.40 Bill of lading; liability of carrier; statements of charges.

Sec. 40. Whenever any property is received by any common carrier subject to the provisions of this act to be transported from one place to another in the state, it shall upon demand by the shipper issue a receipt or bill of lading therefor, naming therein the classification of such freight and the rate of freight at which the same is to be carried; and no common carrier shall limit or change its common law liability by contract or otherwise as to its responsibility for the negligent act of its agents and servants with reference to property in its custody as a common carrier. Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to abridge or in anywise lessen the liability of any such common carrier as it now is under existing laws. All statements rendered for transportation charges shall show character of shipments, weight, rate and total charges before demanding payment.