

1 AN ACT in relation to vehicles.

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  
5 changing Sections 15-107 and 15-111 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-107) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-107)

7 Sec. 15-107. Length of vehicles.

8 (a) The maximum length of a single vehicle on any  
9 highway of this State may not exceed 42 feet except the  
10 following:

11 (1) Semitrailers.

12 (2) Charter or regulated route buses may be up to  
13 45 feet in length, not including energy absorbing  
14 bumpers.

15 (a-1) A motor home as defined in Section 1-145.01 may be  
16 up to 45 feet in length, not including energy absorbing  
17 bumpers. The length limitations described in this subsection  
18 (a-1) shall be exclusive of energy-absorbing bumpers and rear  
19 view mirrors.

20 (b) On all non-State highways, the maximum length of  
21 vehicles in combinations is as follows:

22 (1) A truck tractor in combination with a  
23 semitrailer may not exceed 55 feet overall dimension.

24 (2) A truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer may not  
25 exceed 60 feet overall dimension.

26 (3) Combinations specially designed to transport  
27 motor vehicles or boats may not exceed 60 feet overall  
28 dimension.

29 Vehicles operating during daylight hours when  
30 transporting poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a  
31 structural nature that cannot readily be dismembered are

1 exempt from length limitations, provided that no object may  
2 exceed 80 feet in length and the overall dimension of the  
3 vehicle including the load may not exceed 100 feet. This  
4 exemption does not apply to operation on a Saturday, Sunday,  
5 or legal holiday. Legal holidays referred to in this Section  
6 are the days on which the following traditional holidays are  
7 celebrated: New Year's Day; Memorial Day; Independence Day;  
8 Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day; and Christmas Day.

9 Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility while en  
10 route to make emergency repairs to public service facilities  
11 or properties are exempt from length limitations, provided  
12 that during night operations every vehicle and its load must  
13 be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on  
14 both sides and marker lamps on the extreme ends of any  
15 projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

16 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or  
17 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph  
18 (6) of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length  
19 limitations.

20 All other combinations not listed in this subsection (b)  
21 may not exceed 60 feet overall dimension.

22 (c) Combinations of vehicles may not exceed a total of 2  
23 vehicles except the following:

24 (1) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one  
25 trailer.

26 (2) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one  
27 converter dolly.

28 (3) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one  
29 vehicle that is defined in Chapter 1 as special mobile  
30 equipment, provided the overall dimension does not exceed  
31 60 feet.

32 (4) A truck in transit may draw 3 trucks in transit  
33 coupled together by the triple saddlemount method.

34 (5) Recreational vehicles consisting of 3 vehicles,

1 provided the following:

2 (A) The total overall dimension does not  
3 exceed 60 feet.

4 (B) The towing vehicle is a properly  
5 registered vehicle capable of towing another vehicle  
6 using a fifth-wheel type assembly.

7 (C) The second vehicle in the combination of  
8 vehicles is a recreational vehicle that is towed by  
9 a fifth-wheel assembly. This vehicle must be  
10 properly registered and must be equipped with  
11 brakes, regardless of weight.

12 (D) The third vehicle must be the lightest of  
13 the 3 vehicles and be a trailer or semitrailer  
14 designed or used for transporting a boat,  
15 all-terrain vehicle, personal watercraft, or  
16 motorcycle.

17 (E) The towed vehicles may be only for the use  
18 of the operator of the towing vehicle.

19 (F) All vehicles must be properly equipped  
20 with operating brakes and safety equipment required  
21 by this Code, except the additional brake  
22 requirement in subdivision (C) of this subparagraph  
23 (5).

24 (6) A tow truck in combination with a disabled  
25 vehicle or combination of disabled vehicles, provided the  
26 towing vehicle:

27 (A) Is specifically designed as a tow truck  
28 having a gross vehicle weight rating of at least  
29 18,000 pounds and equipped with air brakes, provided  
30 that air brakes are required only if the towing  
31 vehicle is towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or  
32 tractor-trailer combination that is equipped with  
33 air brakes. For the purpose of this subsection,  
34 gross vehicle weight rating, or GVWR, means the

1 value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded  
2 weight of the tow truck.

3 (B) Is equipped with flashing, rotating, or  
4 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500  
5 feet in all directions.

6 (C) Is capable of utilizing the lighting and  
7 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or  
8 combination of vehicles.

9 (D) Does not engage a tow exceeding 50 highway  
10 miles from the initial point of wreck or disablement  
11 to a place of repair. Any additional movement of the  
12 vehicles may occur only upon issuance of  
13 authorization for that movement under the provisions  
14 of Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this Code.

15 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
16 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a  
17 tow truck towing another vehicle.

18 For purposes of this Section, a tow-dolly that merely  
19 serves as substitute wheels for another legally licensed  
20 vehicle is considered part of the licensed vehicle and not a  
21 separate vehicle.

22 (d) On Class I highways there are no overall length  
23 limitations on motor vehicles operating in combinations  
24 provided:

25 (1) The length of a semitrailer, unladen or with  
26 load, in combination with a truck tractor may not exceed  
27 53 feet.

28 (2) The distance between the kingpin and the center  
29 of the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in  
30 combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 45 feet  
31 6 inches.

32 (3) The length of a semitrailer or trailer, unladen  
33 or with load, operated in a truck  
34 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination, may not exceed

1 28 feet 6 inches.

2 (4) Maxi-cube combinations, as defined in Chapter  
3 1, may not exceed 65 feet overall dimension.

4 (5) Combinations of vehicles specifically designed  
5 to transport motor vehicles or boats may not exceed 65  
6 feet overall dimension. The length limitation is  
7 inclusive of front and rear bumpers but exclusive of the  
8 overhang of the transported vehicles, as provided in  
9 paragraph (i) of this Section.

10 (6) Stinger steered semitrailer vehicles as defined  
11 in Chapter 1, specifically designed to transport motor  
12 vehicles or boats, may not exceed 75 feet overall  
13 dimension. The length limitation is inclusive of front  
14 and rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the  
15 transported vehicles, as provided in paragraph (i) of  
16 this Section.

17 (7) A truck in transit transporting 3 trucks  
18 coupled together by the triple saddlemount method may not  
19 exceed 75 feet overall dimension.

20 Vehicles operating during daylight hours when  
21 transporting poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a  
22 structural nature that cannot readily be dismembered are  
23 exempt from length limitations, provided that no object may  
24 exceed 80 feet in length and the overall dimension of the  
25 vehicle including the load may not exceed 100 feet. This  
26 exemption does not apply to operation on a Saturday, Sunday,  
27 or legal holiday. Legal holidays referred to in this Section  
28 are the days on which the following traditional holidays are  
29 celebrated: New Year's Day; Memorial Day; Independence Day;  
30 Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day; and Christmas Day.

31 Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility while en  
32 route to make emergency repairs to public service facilities  
33 or properties are exempt from length limitations, provided  
34 that during night operations every vehicle and its load must

1 be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on  
2 both sides and marker lamps on the extreme ends of any  
3 projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

4 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or  
5 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph  
6 (6) of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length  
7 limitations.

8 The length limitations described in this paragraph (d)  
9 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,  
10 such as bumpers, refrigeration units or air compressors and  
11 other devices, that the Department may interpret as necessary  
12 for safe and efficient operation; except that no device  
13 excluded under this paragraph shall have by its design or use  
14 the capability to carry cargo.

15 Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act  
16 relating to procedures for rulemaking shall not apply to the  
17 designation of highways under this paragraph (d).

18 (e) On Class II highways there are no overall length  
19 limitations on motor vehicles operating in combinations,  
20 provided:

21 (1) The length of a semitrailer, unladen or with  
22 load, in combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed  
23 53 feet overall dimension.

24 (2) The distance between the kingpin and the center  
25 of the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in  
26 combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 45 feet  
27 6 inches.

28 (3) A truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination  
29 may not exceed 65 feet in dimension from front axle to  
30 rear axle.

31 (4) The length of a semitrailer or trailer, unladen  
32 or with load, operated in a truck  
33 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination, may not exceed  
34 28 feet 6 inches.

1           (5) Maxi-cube combinations, as defined in Chapter  
2           1, may not exceed 65 feet overall dimension.

3           (6) A combination of vehicles, specifically  
4           designed to transport motor vehicles or boats, may not  
5           exceed 65 feet overall dimension. The length limitation  
6           is inclusive of front and rear bumpers but exclusive of  
7           the overhang of the transported vehicles, as provided in  
8           paragraph (i) of this Section.

9           (7) Stinger steered semitrailer vehicles, as  
10          defined in Chapter 1, specifically designed to transport  
11          motor vehicles or boats, may not exceed 75 feet overall  
12          dimension. The length limitation is inclusive of front  
13          and rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the  
14          transported vehicles, as provided in paragraph (i) of  
15          this Section.

16          (8) A truck in transit transporting 3 trucks  
17          coupled together by the triple saddlemount method may not  
18          exceed 75 feet overall dimension.

19          Vehicles operating during daylight hours when  
20          transporting poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a  
21          structural nature that cannot readily be dismembered are  
22          exempt from length limitations, provided that no object may  
23          exceed 80 feet in length and the overall dimension of the  
24          vehicle including the load may not exceed 100 feet. This  
25          exemption does not apply to operation on a Saturday, Sunday,  
26          or legal holiday. Legal holidays referred to in this Section  
27          are the days on which the following traditional holidays are  
28          celebrated: New Year's Day; Memorial Day; Independence Day;  
29          Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day; and Christmas Day.

30          Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility while en  
31          route to make emergency repairs to public service facilities  
32          or properties are exempt from length limitations, provided  
33          that during night operations every vehicle and its load must  
34          be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on

1 both sides and marker lamps on the extreme ends of any  
2 projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

3 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or  
4 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph  
5 (6) of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length  
6 limitations.

7 Local authorities and road district commissioners, with  
8 respect to streets and highways under their jurisdiction, may  
9 also by ordinance or resolution allow length limitations of  
10 this subsection (e).

11 The length limitations described in this paragraph (e)  
12 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,  
13 such as bumpers, refrigeration units or air compressors and  
14 other devices, that the Department may interpret as necessary  
15 for safe and efficient operation; except that no device  
16 excluded under this paragraph shall have by its design or use  
17 the capability to carry cargo.

18 (e-1) Combinations of vehicles not exceeding 65 feet  
19 overall length are allowed access as follows:

20 (1) From any State designated highway onto any  
21 county, township, or municipal highway for a distance of  
22 5 highway miles for the purpose of loading and unloading,  
23 provided:

24 (A) The vehicle does not exceed 73,280 pounds  
25 in gross weight and 8 feet 6 inches in width.

26 (B) There is no sign prohibiting that access.

27 (C) The route is not being used as a  
28 thoroughfare between State designated highways.

29 (2) From any State designated highway onto any  
30 county or township highway for a distance of 5 highway  
31 miles or onto any municipal highway for a distance of one  
32 highway mile for the purpose of food, fuel, repairs, and  
33 rest, provided:

34 (A) The vehicle does not exceed 73,280 pounds



1 in gross weight and 8 feet 6 inches in width.

2 (B) There is no sign prohibiting that access.

3 (C) The route is not being used as a  
4 thoroughfare between State designated highways.

5 (e-2) Except as provided in subsection (e-3),  
6 combinations of vehicles over 65 feet in length, with no  
7 overall length limitation except as provided in subsections  
8 (d) and (e) of this Section, are allowed access as follows:

9 (1) From a Class I highway onto any street or  
10 highway for a distance of one highway mile for the  
11 purpose of loading, unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and  
12 rest, provided there is no sign prohibiting that access.

13 (2) From a Class I or Class II highway onto any  
14 State highway or any locally designated highway for a  
15 distance of 5 highway miles for the purpose of loading,  
16 unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and rest.

17 (e-3) Combinations of vehicles over 65 feet in length  
18 operated by household goods carriers, with no overall length  
19 limitations except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of  
20 this Section, have unlimited access to points of loading and  
21 unloading.

22 Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act  
23 relating to procedures for rulemaking shall not apply to the  
24 designation of highways under this paragraph (e).

25 (f) On Class III and other non-designated State  
26 highways, the length limitations for vehicles in combination  
27 are as follows:

28 (1) Truck tractor-semitrailer combinations, must  
29 comply with either a maximum 55 feet overall wheel base  
30 or a maximum 65 feet extreme overall dimension.

31 (2) Semitrailers, unladen or with load, may not  
32 exceed 53 feet overall dimension.

33 (3) No truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer  
34 combination may exceed 60 feet extreme overall dimension.

1           (4) The distance between the kingpin and the center  
2           axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination  
3           with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches.

4           (g) Length limitations in the preceding subsections of  
5           this Section 15-107 do not apply to the following:

6           (1) Vehicles operated in the daytime, except on  
7           Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays, when transporting  
8           poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural  
9           nature that cannot readily be dismembered, provided the  
10          overall length of vehicle and load may not exceed 100  
11          feet and no object exceeding 80 feet in length may be  
12          transported unless a permit has been obtained as  
13          authorized in Section 15-301.

14          (2) Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility  
15          while en route to make emergency repairs to public  
16          service facilities or properties, but during night  
17          operation every vehicle and its load must be equipped  
18          with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both sides  
19          and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any projecting  
20          load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

21          (3) A tow truck in combination with a disabled  
22          vehicle or combination of disabled vehicles, provided the  
23          towing vehicle meets the following conditions:

24                (A) It is specifically designed as a tow truck  
25                having a gross vehicle weight rating of at least  
26                18,000 pounds and equipped with air brakes, provided  
27                that air brakes are required only if the towing  
28                vehicle is towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or  
29                tractor-trailer combination that is equipped with  
30                air brakes.

31                (B) It is equipped with flashing, rotating, or  
32                oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500  
33                feet in all directions.

34                (C) It is capable of utilizing the lighting

1 and braking systems of the disabled vehicle or  
2 combination of vehicles.

3 (D) It does not engage in a tow exceeding 50  
4 miles from the initial point of wreck or  
5 disablement.

6 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
7 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a  
8 tow truck towing another vehicle. Notwithstanding any rule or  
9 regulation or any other provision of this Code, however, a  
10 towing vehicle that meets the requirements of paragraph (1),  
11 (2), or (3) of this subsection (g) may tow any disabled  
12 vehicle from the initial point of wreck or disablement to a  
13 point where repairs are actually to occur. This movement  
14 shall be valid only on State routes approved by the  
15 Department of Transportation. The tower must abide by posted  
16 bridge weight limits.

17 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight  
18 rating, or GVWR, shall mean the value specified by the  
19 manufacturer as the loaded weight of the tow truck. Legal  
20 holidays referred to in this Section shall be specified as  
21 the day on which the following traditional holidays are  
22 celebrated:

23 New Year's Day;  
24 Memorial Day;  
25 Independence Day;  
26 Labor Day;  
27 Thanksgiving Day; and  
28 Christmas Day.

29 (h) The load upon any vehicle operated alone, or the  
30 load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles,  
31 shall not extend more than 3 feet beyond the front wheels of  
32 the vehicle or the front bumper of the vehicle if it is  
33 equipped with a front bumper. The provisions of this  
34 subsection (h) shall not apply to any vehicle or combination

1 of vehicles specifically designed for the collection and  
2 transportation of waste, garbage, or recyclable materials  
3 during the vehicle's operation in the course of collecting  
4 garbage, waste, or recyclable materials if the vehicle is  
5 traveling at a speed not in excess of 15 miles per hour  
6 during the vehicle's operation and in the course of  
7 collecting garbage, waste, or recyclable materials. However,  
8 in no instance shall the load extend more than 7 feet beyond  
9 the front wheels of the vehicle or the front bumper of the  
10 vehicle if it is equipped with a front bumper.

11 (i) The load upon the front vehicle of a combination of  
12 vehicles specifically designed to transport motor vehicles  
13 shall not extend more than 3 feet beyond the foremost part of  
14 the transporting vehicle and the load upon the rear  
15 transporting vehicle shall not extend more than 4 feet beyond  
16 the rear of the bed or body of the vehicle. This paragraph  
17 shall only be applicable upon highways designated in  
18 paragraphs (d) and (e) of this Section.

19 (j) Articulated vehicles comprised of 2 sections,  
20 neither of which exceeds a length of 42 feet, designed for  
21 the carrying of more than 10 persons, may be up to 60 feet in  
22 length, not including energy absorbing bumpers, provided that  
23 the vehicles are:

24 1. operated by or for any public body or motor  
25 carrier authorized by law to provide public  
26 transportation services; or

27 2. operated in local public transportation service  
28 by any other person and the municipality in which the  
29 service is to be provided approved the operation of the  
30 vehicle.

31 (j-1) (Blank).

32 (k) Any person who is convicted of violating this  
33 Section is subject to the penalty as provided in paragraph  
34 (b) of Section 15-113.

1 (1) (Blank).

2 (Source: P.A. 92-417, eff. 1-1-02; 92-766, eff. 1-1-03;  
3 92-883, eff. 1-13-03.)

4 (625 ILCS 5/15-111) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111)

5 Sec. 15-111. Wheel and axle loads and gross weights.

6 (a) On non-designated highways, no vehicle or  
7 combination of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires may be  
8 operated, unladen or with load, when the total weight  
9 transmitted to the road surface exceeds 18,000 pounds on a  
10 single axle or 32,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle  
11 within the tandem exceeding 18,000 pounds except:

12 (1) when a different limit is established and  
13 posted in accordance with Section 15-316 of this Code;

14 (2) vehicles for which the Department of  
15 Transportation and local authorities issue overweight  
16 permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this Code;

17 (3) tow trucks subject to the conditions provided  
18 in subsection (d) may not exceed 24,000 pounds on a  
19 single rear axle or 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle;

20 (4) any single axle of a 2-axle truck weighing  
21 36,000 pounds or less and not a part of a combination of  
22 vehicles, shall not exceed 20,000 pounds;

23 (5) any single axle of a 2-axle truck equipped with  
24 a personnel lift or digger derrick, weighing 36,000  
25 pounds or less, owned and operated by a public utility,  
26 shall not exceed 20,000 pounds;

27 (6) any single axle of a 2-axle truck specially  
28 equipped with a front loading compactor used exclusively  
29 for garbage, refuse, or recycling may not exceed 20,000  
30 pounds per axle, provided that the gross weight of the  
31 vehicle does not exceed 40,000 pounds;

32 (7) a truck, not in combination and specially  
33 equipped with a selfcompactor or an industrial roll-off

1 hoist and roll-off container, used exclusively for  
2 garbage or refuse operations may, when laden, transmit  
3 upon the road surface the following maximum weights:  
4 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem  
5 axle;

6 (8) a truck, not in combination and used  
7 exclusively for the collection of rendering materials,  
8 may, when laden, transmit upon the road surface the  
9 following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single  
10 axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle;

11 (9) tandem axles on a 3-axle truck registered as a  
12 Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the  
13 model year of 2004 and first registered in Illinois prior  
14 to January 1, 2005, with a distance greater than 72  
15 inches but not more than 96 inches between any series of  
16 2 axles, is allowed a combined weight on the series not  
17 to exceed 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series  
18 may exceed 18,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type  
19 manufactured after the model year of 2004 or first  
20 registered in Illinois after December 31, 2004 may not  
21 exceed a combined weight of 32,000 pounds through the  
22 series of 2 axles and neither axle of the series may  
23 exceed 18,000 pounds;

24 (10) tandem axles on a 4-axle truck mixer, whose  
25 fourth axle is a road surface engaging mixer trailing  
26 axle, registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, used  
27 exclusively for the mixing and transportation of concrete  
28 and manufactured prior to or in the model year of 2004  
29 and first registered in Illinois prior to January 1,  
30 2005, with a distance greater than 72 inches but not more  
31 than 96 inches between any series of 2 axles, is allowed  
32 a combined weight on the series not to exceed 36,000  
33 pounds and neither axle of the series may exceed 18,000  
34 pounds. Any vehicle of this type manufactured after the

1 model year of 2004 or first registered in Illinois after  
 2 December 31, 2004 may not exceed a combined weight of  
 3 32,000 pounds through the series of 2 axles and neither  
 4 axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds;

5 (11) 4-axle vehicles or a 5 or more axle  
 6 combination of vehicles: The weight transmitted upon the  
 7 road surface through any series of 3 axles whose centers  
 8 are more than 96 inches apart, measured between extreme  
 9 axles in the series, may not exceed those allowed in the  
 10 table contained in subsection (f) of this Section. No  
 11 axle or tandem axle of the series may exceed the maximum  
 12 weight permitted under this Section for a single or  
 13 tandem axle.

14 No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with other  
 15 than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with load,  
 16 upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on the  
 17 road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch  
 18 width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road  
 19 surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.

20 (b) On non-designated highways, the gross weight of  
 21 vehicles and combination of vehicles including the weight of  
 22 the vehicle or combination and its maximum load shall be  
 23 subject to the foregoing limitations and further shall not  
 24 exceed the following gross weights dependent upon the number  
 25 of axles and distance between extreme axles of the vehicle or  
 26 combination measured longitudinally to the nearest foot.

27 VEHICLES HAVING 2 AXLES ..... 36,000 pounds

28 VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS

29 HAVING 3 AXLES

30 With Tandem	With or
31 Axles	Without
32	Tandem Axles
33 Minimum	Minimum

1	distance to	Maximum	distance to	Maximum
2	nearest foot	Gross	nearest foot	Gross
3	between	Weight	between	Weight
4	extreme axles	(pounds)	extreme axles	(pounds)
5	10 feet	41,000	16 feet	46,000
6	11	42,000	17	47,000
7	12	43,000	18	47,500
8	13	44,000	19	48,000
9	14	44,500	20	49,000
10	15	45,000	21 feet or more	50,000

VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS

HAVING 4 AXLES

13	Minimum		Minimum	
14	distance to	Maximum	distance to	Maximum
15	nearest foot	Gross	nearest foot	Gross
16	between	Weight	between	Weight
17	extreme axles	(pounds)	extreme axles	(pounds)
18	15 feet	50,000	26 feet	57,500
19	16	50,500	27	58,000
20	17	51,500	28	58,500
21	18	52,000	29	59,500
22	19	52,500	30	60,000
23	20	53,500	31	60,500
24	21	54,000	32	61,500
25	22	54,500	33	62,000
26	23	55,500	34	62,500
27	24	56,000	35	63,500
28	25	56,500	36 feet or more	64,000

29 A vehicle not in a combination having more than 4 axles  
 30 may not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (b)  
 31 for 4 axles measured between the extreme axles of the  
 32 vehicle.

COMBINATIONS HAVING 5 OR MORE AXLES

34 Minimum distance to Maximum



1	nearest foot between	Gross Weight
2	extreme axles	(pounds)
3	42 feet or less	72,000
4	43	73,000
5	44 feet or more	73,280

6 VEHICLES OPERATING ON CRAWLER TYPE TRACKS ..... 40,000 pounds

7 TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH SELFCOMPACTORS  
8 OR ROLL-OFF HOISTS AND ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS FOR GARBAGE  
9 OR REFUSE HAULS ONLY AND TRUCKS USED FOR  
10 THE COLLECTION OF RENDERING MATERIALS  
11 On Highway Not Part of National System  
12 of Interstate and Defense Highways

13 with 2 axles 36,000 pounds

14 with 3 axles 54,000 pounds

15 TWO AXLE TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH  
16 A FRONT LOADING COMPACTOR USED EXCLUSIVELY  
17 FOR THE COLLECTION OF GARBAGE, REFUSE, OR RECYCLING  
18 with 2 axles 40,000 pounds

19 (c) Cities having a population of more than 50,000 may  
20 permit by ordinance axle loads on 2 axle motor vehicles 33  
21 1/2% above those provided for herein, but the increase shall  
22 not become effective until the city has officially notified  
23 the Department of the passage of the ordinance and shall not  
24 apply to those vehicles when outside of the limits of the  
25 city, nor shall the gross weight of any 2 axle motor vehicle  
26 operating over any street of the city exceed 40,000 pounds.

27 (d) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles  
28 (including loads) operated by a public utility when  
29 transporting equipment required for emergency repair of  
30 public utility facilities or properties or water wells.

31 A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck and a  
32 disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles, that

1 exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code, may be  
2 operated on a public highway in this State provided that  
3 neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being towed nor  
4 the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight limitations  
5 permitted under this Chapter. During the towing operation,  
6 neither the tow truck nor the vehicle combination shall  
7 exceed 24,000 pounds on a single rear axle and 44,000 pounds  
8 on a tandem rear axle, provided the towing vehicle:

9 (1) is specifically designed as a tow truck having  
10 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds  
11 and is equipped with air brakes, provided that air brakes  
12 are required only if the towing vehicle is towing a  
13 vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer combination that  
14 is equipped with air brakes;

15 (2) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or  
16 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet  
17 in all directions;

18 (3) is capable of utilizing the lighting and  
19 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination of  
20 vehicles; and

21 (4) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles  
22 from the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any  
23 additional movement of the vehicles may occur only upon  
24 issuance of authorization for that movement under the  
25 provisions of Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this  
26 Code.

27 Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of  
28 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck  
29 license plate must cover the operating empty weight of the  
30 tow truck only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall  
31 be covered by a valid license plate issued to the owner or  
32 operator of the vehicle being towed and displayed on that  
33 vehicle. If no valid plate issued to the owner or operator of  
34 that vehicle is displayed on that vehicle, or the plate

1 displayed on that vehicle does not cover the weight of the  
2 vehicle, the weight of the vehicle shall be covered by the  
3 third tow truck plate issued to the owner or operator of the  
4 tow truck and temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed.

5 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
6 additional requirements. However, nothing in this Code shall  
7 prohibit a tow truck under instructions of a police officer  
8 from legally clearing a disabled vehicle, that may be in  
9 violation of weight limitations of this Chapter, from the  
10 roadway to the berm or shoulder of the highway. If in the  
11 opinion of the police officer that location is unsafe, the  
12 officer is authorized to have the disabled vehicle towed to  
13 the nearest place of safety. Furthermore, nothing in this  
14 Code nor any rule or regulation prohibits a towing vehicle  
15 that meets the requirements of paragraph (1) of this  
16 subsection (d) from towing any disabled vehicle from the  
17 initial point of wreck or disablement to a point where  
18 repairs are actually to occur. This movement shall be valid  
19 only on State routes approved by the Department of  
20 Transportation. The tower must abide by posted bridge weight  
21 limits.

22 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight  
23 rating, or GVWR, shall mean the value specified by the  
24 manufacturer as the loaded weight of the tow truck.

25 (e) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with  
26 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon  
27 the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of  
28 any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301  
29 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

30 (f) On designated Class I, II, or III highways and the  
31 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, no  
32 vehicle or combination of vehicles with pneumatic tires may  
33 be operated, unladen or with load, when the total weight on  
34 the road surface exceeds the following: 20,000 pounds on a

1 single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle  
 2 within the tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds  
 3 gross weight for vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or  
 4 a total weight on a group of 2 or more consecutive axles in  
 5 excess of that weight produced by the application of the  
 6 following formula:  $W = 500 \text{ times the sum of } (LN \text{ divided by}$   
 7  $N-1) + 12N + 36$ , where "W" equals overall total weight on any  
 8 group of 2 or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500  
 9 pounds, "L" equals the distance measured to the nearest foot  
 10 between extremes of any group of 2 or more consecutive axles,  
 11 and "N" equals the number of axles in the group under  
 12 consideration.

13 The above formula when expressed in tabular form results  
 14 in allowable loads as follows:

15	Distance measured				
16	to the nearest				
17	foot between the				
18	extremes of any		Maximum weight in pounds		
19	group of 2 or		of any group of		
20	more consecutive		2 or more consecutive axles		
21	axles				
22	feet	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles 6 axles
23	4	34,000			
24	5	34,000			
25	6	34,000			
26	7	34,000			
27	8	38,000*	42,000		
28	9	39,000	42,500		
29	10	40,000	43,500		
30	11		44,000		
31	12		45,000	50,000	
32	13		45,500	50,500	
33	14		46,500	51,500	
34	15		47,000	52,000	

1	16	48,000	52,500	58,000	
2	17	48,500	53,500	58,500	
3	18	49,500	54,000	59,000	
4	19	50,000	54,500	60,000	
5	20	51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000
6	21	51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
7	22	52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
8	23	53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
9	24	54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
10	25	54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
11	26	55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
12	27	56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
13	28	57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
14	29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500
15	30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000
16	31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500
17	32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000
18	33		64,000	68,500	74,000
19	34		64,500	69,000	74,500
20	35		65,500	70,000	75,000
21	36		66,000	70,500	75,500
22	37		66,500	71,000	76,000
23	38		67,500	72,000	77,000
24	39		68,000	72,500	77,500
25	40		68,500	73,000	78,000
26	41		69,500	73,500	78,500
27	42		70,000	74,000	79,000
28	43		70,500	75,000	80,000
29	44		71,500	75,500	
30	45		72,000	76,000	
31	46		72,500	76,500	
32	47		73,500	77,500	
33	48		74,000	78,000	
34	49		74,500	78,500	

1	50	75,500	79,000
2	51	76,000	80,000
3	52	76,500	
4	53	77,500	
5	54	78,000	
6	55	78,500	
7	56	79,500	
8	57	80,000	

9 \*If the distance between 2 axles is 96 inches or less, the 2  
 10 axles are tandem axles and the maximum total weight may not  
 11 exceed 34,000 pounds, notwithstanding the higher limit  
 12 resulting from the application of the formula.

13 Vehicles not in a combination having more than 4 axles  
 14 may not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (f)  
 15 for 4 axles measured between the extreme axles of the  
 16 vehicle.

17 Vehicles in a combination having more than 6 axles may  
 18 not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (f) for  
 19 6 axles measured between the extreme axles of the  
 20 combination.

21 Local authorities and road district highway  
 22 commissioners, with respect to streets and highways under  
 23 their jurisdiction, without additional fees, may also by  
 24 ordinance or resolution allow the weight limitations of this  
 25 subsection, provided the maximum gross weight on any one axle  
 26 shall not exceed 20,000 pounds and the maximum total weight  
 27 on any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on  
 28 designated highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving  
 29 notice are erected upon the street or highway or portion of  
 30 any street or highway affected by the ordinance or  
 31 resolution.

32 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

- 33 (1) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry
- 34 a total weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall

1 distance between the first and last axles of the  
2 consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more.

3 (2) Vehicles for which a different limit is  
4 established and posted in accordance with Section 15-316  
5 of this Code.

6 (3) Vehicles for which the Department of  
7 Transportation and local authorities issue overweight  
8 permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this Code.  
9 These vehicles are not subject to the bridge formula.

10 (4) Tow trucks subject to the conditions provided  
11 in subsection (d) may not exceed 24,000 pounds on a  
12 single rear axle or 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle.

13 (5) A tandem axle on a 3-axle truck registered as a  
14 Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the  
15 model year of 2004, and registered in Illinois prior to  
16 January 1, 2005, with a distance between 2 axles in a  
17 series greater than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches  
18 may not exceed a total weight of 36,000 pounds and  
19 neither axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds.

20 (6) A truck not in combination, equipped with a  
21 self compactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and  
22 roll-off container, used exclusively for garbage or  
23 refuse operations, may, when laden, transmit upon the  
24 road surface, except when on part of the National System  
25 of Interstate and Defense Highways, the following maximum  
26 weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on  
27 a tandem axle; 36,000 pounds gross weight on a 2-axle  
28 vehicle; 54,000 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle.  
29 This vehicle is not subject to the bridge formula.

30 (7) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special  
31 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured  
32 prior to or in the model year of 2004, and registered in  
33 Illinois prior to January 1, 2005, having 5 axles with a  
34 distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may

1 not exceed the following maximum weights: 18,000 pounds  
2 on a single axle; 32,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and  
3 72,000 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles  
4 is not subject to the bridge formula. For all those  
5 combinations of vehicles that include a semitrailer  
6 manufactured after the effective date of this amendatory  
7 Act of the 92nd General Assembly, the overall distance  
8 between the first and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems  
9 must be 18 feet 6 inches or more. Any combination of  
10 vehicles that has had its cargo container replaced in its  
11 entirety after December 31, 2004 may not exceed the  
12 weights allowed by the bridge formula.

13 No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with other  
14 than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with load,  
15 upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on the  
16 road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch  
17 width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road  
18 surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.

19 (f-1) A vehicle and load not exceeding 73,280 pounds is  
20 allowed access as follows:

21 (1) From any State designated highway onto any  
22 county, township, or municipal highway for a distance of  
23 5 highway miles for the purpose of loading and unloading,  
24 provided:

25 (A) The vehicle and load does not exceed 8  
26 feet 6 inches in width and 65 feet overall length.

27 (B) There is no sign prohibiting that access.

28 (C) The route is not being used as a  
29 thoroughfare between State designated highways.

30 (2) From any State designated highway onto any  
31 county or township highway for a distance of 5 highway  
32 miles, or any municipal highway for a distance of one  
33 highway mile for the purpose of food, fuel, repairs, and  
34 rest, provided:



1 (A) The vehicle and load does not exceed 8  
2 feet 6 inches in width and 65 feet overall length.

3 (B) There is no sign prohibiting that access.

4 (C) The route is not being used as a  
5 thoroughfare between State designated highways.

6 (f-2) A vehicle and load greater than 73,280 pounds in  
7 weight but not exceeding 80,000 pounds is allowed access as  
8 follows:

9 (1) From a Class I highway onto any street or  
10 highway for a distance of one highway mile for the  
11 purpose of loading, unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and  
12 rest, provided there is no sign prohibiting that access.

13 (2) From a Class I, II, or III highway onto any  
14 State highway or any local designated highway for a  
15 distance of 5 highway miles for the purpose of loading,  
16 unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and rest.

17 Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act  
18 relating to procedures for rulemaking shall not apply to the  
19 designation of highways under this subsection.

20 (g) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of  
21 vehicles over a bridge or other elevated structure  
22 constituting part of a highway with a gross weight that is  
23 greater than the maximum weight permitted by the Department,  
24 when the structure is sign posted as provided in this  
25 Section.

26 (h) The Department upon request from any local authority  
27 shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an  
28 investigation of any bridge or other elevated structure  
29 constituting a part of a highway, and if it finds that the  
30 structure cannot with safety to itself withstand the weight  
31 of vehicles otherwise permissible under this Code the  
32 Department shall determine and declare the maximum weight of  
33 vehicles that the structures can withstand, and shall cause  
34 or permit suitable signs stating maximum weight to be erected

1 and maintained before each end of the structure. No person  
2 shall operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles over any  
3 structure with a gross weight that is greater than the posted  
4 maximum weight.

5 (i) Upon the trial of any person charged with a  
6 violation of subsections (g) or (h) of this Section, proof of  
7 the determination of the maximum allowable weight by the  
8 Department and the existence of the signs, constitutes  
9 conclusive evidence of the maximum weight that can be  
10 maintained with safety to the bridge or structure.

11 (Source: P.A. 92-417, eff. 1-1-02.)