

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 changing  
5 Section 15-111 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-111) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 vehicle does not exceed 40,000 pounds;

2 (7) a truck, not in combination and specially equipped  
3 with a selfcompactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and  
4 roll-off container, used exclusively for garbage or refuse  
5 operations may, when laden, transmit upon the road surface  
6 the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single  
7 axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle;

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

13 (9) tandem axles on a 3-axle truck registered as a  
14 Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the  
15 model year of 2014 and first registered in Illinois prior  
16 to January 1, 2015, with a distance greater than 72 inches  
17 but not more than 96 inches between any series of 2 axles,  
18 is allowed a combined weight on the series not to exceed  
19 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may exceed  
20 18,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type manufactured after  
21 the model year of 2014 or first registered in Illinois  
22 after December 31, 2014 may not exceed a combined weight of  
23 32,000 pounds through the series of 2 axles and neither  
24 axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds;

25 (10) ~~tandem axles on a 4-axle truck mixer, whose fourth~~  
26 ~~axle is a road surface engaging mixer trailing axle,~~  
27 registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively  
28 for the mixing and transportation of concrete, and  
29 manufactured prior to or in the model year ~~of~~ 2014, and  
30 first registered in Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, ~~with~~  
31 ~~a distance greater than 72 inches but not more than 96~~  
32 ~~inches between any series of 2 axles,~~ is allowed the  
33 following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any single  
34 axle; 36,000 pounds on any series of 2 axles greater than  
35 72 inches but not more than 96 inches; and 34,000 pounds on  
36 any series of 2 axles greater than 40 inches but not more

1 ~~than 72 inches a combined weight on the series not to~~  
 2 ~~exceed 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may~~  
 3 ~~exceed 18,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type manufactured~~  
 4 ~~after the model year of 2014 or first registered in~~  
 5 ~~Illinois after December 31, 2014 may not exceed a combined~~  
 6 ~~weight of 32,000 pounds through the series of 2 axles and~~  
 7 ~~neither axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds;~~

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

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

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

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

30 VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS

31 HAVING 3 AXLES

32 With Tandem	With or
33 Axles	Without
34	Tandem Axles

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

VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS HAVING 4 AXLES

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

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

COMBINATIONS HAVING 5 OR MORE AXLES

35	Minimum distance to	Maximum
36	nearest foot between	Gross Weight

1	extreme axles	(pounds)
2	42 feet or less	72,000
3	43	73,000
4	44 feet or more	73,280

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

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

12	with 2 axles	36,000 pounds
13	with 3 axles	54,000 pounds

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

18 A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special Hauling  
19 Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing and transportation of  
20 concrete, manufactured before or in the model year 2014, and  
21 first registered in Illinois before January 1, 2015 is allowed  
22 a maximum gross weight listed in the table of subsection (f) of  
23 this Section for 4 axles. This vehicle is not subject to the  
24 series of 3 axles requirement provided in subdivision (a) (11)  
25 of this Section.

26 (c) Cities having a population of more than 50,000 may  
27 permit by ordinance axle loads on 2 axle motor vehicles 33 1/2%  
28 above those provided for herein, but the increase shall not  
29 become effective until the city has officially notified the  
30 Department of the passage of the ordinance and shall not apply  
31 to those vehicles when outside of the limits of the city, nor  
32 shall the gross weight of any 2 axle motor vehicle operating

1 over any street of the city exceed 40,000 pounds.

2 (d) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles  
3 (including loads) operated by a public utility when  
4 transporting equipment required for emergency repair of public  
5 utility facilities or properties or water wells.

6 A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck and a  
7 disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles, that  
8 exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code, may be  
9 operated on a public highway in this State provided that  
10 neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being towed nor  
11 the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight limitations  
12 permitted under this Chapter. During the towing operation,  
13 neither the tow truck nor the vehicle combination shall exceed  
14 24,000 pounds on a single rear axle and 44,000 pounds on a  
15 tandem rear axle, provided the towing vehicle:

16 (1) is specifically designed as a tow truck having a  
17 gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds and  
18 is equipped with air brakes, provided that air brakes are  
19 required only if the towing vehicle is towing a vehicle,  
20 semitrailer, or tractor-trailer combination that is  
21 equipped with air brakes;

22 (2) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or  
23 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet in  
24 all directions;

25 (3) is capable of utilizing the lighting and braking  
26 systems of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles;  
27 and

28 (4) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles from  
29 the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any additional  
30 movement of the vehicles may occur only upon issuance of  
31 authorization for that movement under the provisions of  
32 Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this Code. The towing  
33 vehicle, however, may tow any disabled vehicle from the  
34 initial point of wreck or disablement to a point where  
35 repairs are actually to occur. This movement shall be valid  
36 only on State routes. The tower must abide by posted bridge

1 weight limits.

2 Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of  
3 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license  
4 plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck  
5 only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered  
6 by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the  
7 vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid  
8 plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is  
9 displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that  
10 vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of  
11 the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate  
12 issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and  
13 temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed.

14 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
15 additional requirements. However, nothing in this Code shall  
16 prohibit a tow truck under instructions of a police officer  
17 from legally clearing a disabled vehicle, that may be in  
18 violation of weight limitations of this Chapter, from the  
19 roadway to the berm or shoulder of the highway. If in the  
20 opinion of the police officer that location is unsafe, the  
21 officer is authorized to have the disabled vehicle towed to the  
22 nearest place of safety.

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

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

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

1 tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds gross weight for  
 2 vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or a total weight on a  
 3 group of 2 or more consecutive axles in excess of that weight  
 4 produced by the application of the following formula:  $W = 500$   
 5 times the sum of  $(LN \text{ divided by } N-1) + 12N + 36$ , where "W"  
 6 equals overall total weight on any group of 2 or more  
 7 consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, "L" equals the  
 8 distance measured to the nearest foot between extremes of any  
 9 group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and "N" equals the number  
 10 of axles in the group under consideration.

11 The above formula when expressed in tabular form results in  
 12 allowable loads as follows:

13	Distance measured					
14	to the nearest					
15	foot between the					
16	extremes of any		Maximum weight in pounds			
17	group of 2 or		of any group of			
18	more consecutive		2 or more consecutive axles			
19	axles					
20	feet	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
21	4	34,000				
22	5	34,000				
23	6	34,000				
24	7	34,000				
25	8	38,000*	42,000			
26	9	39,000	42,500			
27	10	40,000	43,500			
28	11		44,000			
29	12		45,000	50,000		
30	13		45,500	50,500		
31	14		46,500	51,500		
32	15		47,000	52,000		
33	16		48,000	52,500	58,000	
34	17		48,500	53,500	58,500	
35	18		49,500	54,000	59,000	



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

1	55	78,500
2	56	79,500
3	57	80,000

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

8 Vehicles not in a combination having more than 4 axles may  
9 not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (f) for 4  
10 axles measured between the extreme axles of the vehicle.

11 Vehicles in a combination having more than 6 axles may not  
12 exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (f) for 6  
13 axles measured between the extreme axles of the combination.

14 Local authorities, with respect to streets and highways  
15 under their jurisdiction, without additional fees, may also by  
16 ordinance or resolution allow the weight limitations of this  
17 subsection, provided the maximum gross weight on any one axle  
18 shall not exceed 20,000 pounds and the maximum total weight on  
19 any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on designated  
20 highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving notice are  
21 erected upon the street or highway or portion of any street or  
22 highway affected by the ordinance or resolution.

23 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

24 (1) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a  
25 total weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance  
26 between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of  
27 tandem axles is 36 feet or more.

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

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

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

1 (5) A tandem axle on a 3-axle truck registered as a  
2 Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the  
3 model year of 2014, and registered in Illinois prior to  
4 January 1, 2015, with a distance between 2 axles in a  
5 series greater than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches  
6 may not exceed a total weight of 36,000 pounds and neither  
7 axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds.

8 (6) A truck not in combination, equipped with a self  
9 compactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off  
10 container, used exclusively for garbage or refuse  
11 operations, may, when laden, transmit upon the road  
12 surface, except when on part of the National System of  
13 Interstate and Defense Highways, the following maximum  
14 weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a  
15 tandem axle; 36,000 pounds gross weight on a 2-axle  
16 vehicle; 54,000 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle.  
17 This vehicle is not subject to the bridge formula.

18 (7) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special  
19 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured  
20 prior to or in the model year of 2014, and registered in  
21 Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, having 5 axles with a  
22 distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may not  
23 exceed the following maximum weights: 18,000 pounds on a  
24 single axle; 32,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and 72,000  
25 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles is not  
26 subject to the bridge formula. For all those combinations  
27 of vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured after  
28 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 92nd  
29 General Assembly, the overall distance between the first  
30 and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems must be 18 feet 6  
31 inches or more. Any combination of vehicles that has had  
32 its cargo container replaced in its entirety after December  
33 31, 2014 may not exceed the weights allowed by the bridge  
34 formula.

35 (8) A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special  
36 Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing and

1 transportation of concrete, manufactured before or in the  
2 model year 2014, first registered in Illinois before  
3 January 1, 2015, and not operated on a highway that is part  
4 of the National System of Interstate Highways is allowed  
5 the following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any single  
6 axle; 36,000 pounds on a series of axles greater than 72  
7 inches but not more than 96 inches; and 34,000 pounds on  
8 any series of axles greater than 40 inches but not more  
9 than 72 inches. The gross weight of the vehicle may not  
10 exceed the weights allowed by the bridge formula for 4  
11 axles. The bridge formula does not apply to any series of 3  
12 axles.

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 county,  
22 township, or municipal highway for a distance of 5 highway  
23 miles for the purpose of loading and unloading, provided:

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 (C) The route is not being used as a thoroughfare

1           between State designated highways.

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

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

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

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

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

21           (h) The Department upon request from any local authority  
22 shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an investigation  
23 of any bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part  
24 of a highway, and if it finds that the structure cannot with  
25 safety to itself withstand the weight of vehicles otherwise  
26 permissible under this Code the Department shall determine and  
27 declare the maximum weight of vehicles that the structures can  
28 withstand, and shall cause or permit suitable signs stating  
29 maximum weight to be erected and maintained before each end of  
30 the structure. No person shall operate a vehicle or combination  
31 of vehicles over any structure with a gross weight that is  
32 greater than the posted maximum weight.

33           (i) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation  
34 of subsections (g) or (h) of this Section, proof of the  
35 determination of the maximum allowable weight by the Department  
36 and the existence of the signs, constitutes conclusive evidence

1 of the maximum weight that can be maintained with safety to the  
2 bridge or structure.

3 (Source: P.A. 92-417, eff. 1-1-02; 93-177, eff. 7-11-03;  
4 93-186, eff. 1-1-04; 93-1023, eff. 8-25-04.)