

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 in the  
29 plastic state and manufactured prior to or in the model  
30 year of 2014 and first registered in Illinois prior to  
31 January 1, 2015, ~~with a distance greater than 72 inches but~~  
32 ~~not more than 96 inches between any series of 2 axles,~~ is  
33 allowed the following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any  
34 single axle; 36,000 pounds on any series of 2 axles greater  
35 than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches; and 34,000  
36 pounds on any series of 2 axles greater than 40 inches but

1 ~~not more than 72 inches a combined weight on the series not~~  
 2 ~~to 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

12 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 may  
30 not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (b) for 4  
31 axles measured between the extreme axles of the vehicle.

32 COMBINATIONS HAVING 5 OR MORE AXLES

33 Minimum distance to Maximum  
34 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 REFUSE, OR RECYCLING 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
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18 A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special Hauling  
19 Vehicle, used exclusively for mixing and transportation of  
20 concrete in the plastic state, manufactured before or in the  
21 model year of 2014, and first registered in Illinois before  
22 January 1, 2015, is allowed a maximum gross weight listed in  
23 the table of subsection (f) of this Section for 4 axles. This  
24 vehicle, while loaded with concrete in the plastic state, is  
25 not subject to the series of 3 axles requirement provided for  
26 in subdivision (a)(11) of this Section, but no axle or tandem  
27 axle of the series may exceed the maximum weight permitted  
28 under subdivision (a)(10) of this Section.

29 (b-1) As used in this Section, a "recycling haul" or  
30 "recycling operation" means the hauling of segregated,  
31 non-hazardous, non-special, homogeneous non-putrescible  
32 materials, such as paper, glass, cans, or plastic, for

1 subsequent use in the secondary materials market.

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

10 (d) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles  
11 (including loads) operated by a public utility when  
12 transporting equipment required for emergency repair of public  
13 utility facilities or properties or water wells.

14 A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck and a  
15 disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles, that  
16 exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code, may be  
17 operated on a public highway in this State provided that  
18 neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being towed nor  
19 the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight limitations  
20 permitted under this Chapter. During the towing operation,  
21 neither the tow truck nor the vehicle combination shall exceed  
22 24,000 pounds on a single rear axle and 44,000 pounds on a  
23 tandem rear axle, provided the towing vehicle:

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

30 (2) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or  
31 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet in  
32 all directions;

33 (3) is capable of utilizing the lighting and braking  
34 systems of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles;  
35 and

36 (4) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles from

1 the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any additional  
2 movement of the vehicles may occur only upon issuance of  
3 authorization for that movement under the provisions of  
4 Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this Code. The towing  
5 vehicle, however, may tow any disabled vehicle from the  
6 initial point of wreck or disablement to a point where  
7 repairs are actually to occur. This movement shall be valid  
8 only on State routes. The tower must abide by posted bridge  
9 weight limits.

10 Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of  
11 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license  
12 plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck  
13 only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered  
14 by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the  
15 vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid  
16 plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is  
17 displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that  
18 vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of  
19 the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate  
20 issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and  
21 temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed.

22 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
23 additional requirements. However, nothing in this Code shall  
24 prohibit a tow truck under instructions of a police officer  
25 from legally clearing a disabled vehicle, that may be in  
26 violation of weight limitations of this Chapter, from the  
27 roadway to the berm or shoulder of the highway. If in the  
28 opinion of the police officer that location is unsafe, the  
29 officer is authorized to have the disabled vehicle towed to the  
30 nearest place of safety.

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

34 (e) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with  
35 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon  
36 the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of

1 any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301  
 2 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

3 (f) On designated Class I, II, or III highways and the  
 4 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, no vehicle  
 5 or combination of vehicles with pneumatic tires may be  
 6 operated, unladen or with load, when the total weight on the  
 7 road surface exceeds the following: 20,000 pounds on a single  
 8 axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle within the  
 9 tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds gross weight for  
 10 vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or a total weight on a  
 11 group of 2 or more consecutive axles in excess of that weight  
 12 produced by the application of the following formula:  $W = 500$   
 13 times the sum of (LN divided by N-1) + 12N + 36, where "W"  
 14 equals overall total weight on any group of 2 or more  
 15 consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, "L" equals the  
 16 distance measured to the nearest foot between extremes of any  
 17 group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and "N" equals the number  
 18 of axles in the group under consideration.

19 The above formula when expressed in tabular form results in  
 20 allowable loads as follows:

21	Distance measured				
22	to the nearest				
23	foot between the				
24	extremes of any		Maximum weight in pounds		
25	group of 2 or		of any group of		
26	more consecutive		2 or more consecutive axles		
27	axles				
28	feet	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles 6 axles
29	4	34,000			
30	5	34,000			
31	6	34,000			
32	7	34,000			
33	8	38,000*	42,000		
34	9	39,000	42,500		
35	10	40,000	43,500		



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

1	47	73,500	77,500
2	48	74,000	78,000
3	49	74,500	78,500
4	50	75,500	79,000
5	51	76,000	80,000
6	52	76,500	
7	53	77,500	
8	54	78,000	
9	55	78,500	
10	56	79,500	
11	57	80,000	

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

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

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

22 Local authorities, with respect to streets and highways  
23 under 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 on  
27 any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on designated  
28 highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving notice are  
29 erected upon the street or highway or portion of any street or  
30 highway affected by the ordinance or resolution.

31 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

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

36 (2) Vehicles for which a different limit is established

1 and posted in accordance with Section 15-316 of this Code.

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

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

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

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

26 (7) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special  
27 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured  
28 prior to or in the model year of 2014, and registered in  
29 Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, having 5 axles with a  
30 distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may not  
31 exceed the following maximum weights: 18,000 pounds on a  
32 single axle; 32,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and 72,000  
33 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles is not  
34 subject to the bridge formula. For all those combinations  
35 of vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured after  
36 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 92nd

1 General Assembly, the overall distance between the first  
2 and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems must be 18 feet 6  
3 inches or more. Any combination of vehicles that has had  
4 its cargo container replaced in its entirety after December  
5 31, 2014 may not exceed the weights allowed by the bridge  
6 formula.

7 (8) A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special  
8 Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing and  
9 transportation of concrete in the plastic state,  
10 manufactured before or in the model year of 2014, first  
11 registered in Illinois before January 1, 2015, and not  
12 operated on a highway that is part of the National System  
13 of Interstate Highways, is allowed the following maximum  
14 weights: 20,000 pounds on any single axle; 36,000 pounds on  
15 a series of axles greater than 72 inches but not more than  
16 96 inches; and 34,000 pounds on any series of 2 axles  
17 greater than 40 inches but not more than 72 inches. The  
18 gross weight of this vehicle may not exceed the weights  
19 allowed by the bridge formula for 4 axles. The bridge  
20 formula does not apply to any series of 3 axles while the  
21 vehicle is transporting concrete in the plastic state, but  
22 no axle or tandem axle of the series may exceed the maximum  
23 weight permitted under this subsection (f).

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

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

32 (1) From any State designated highway onto any county,  
33 township, or municipal highway for a distance of 5 highway  
34 miles for the purpose of loading and unloading, provided:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 (h) The Department upon request from any local authority  
33 shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an investigation  
34 of any bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part  
35 of a highway, and if it finds that the structure cannot with  
36 safety to itself withstand the weight of vehicles otherwise

1 permissible under this Code the Department shall determine and  
2 declare the maximum weight of vehicles that the structures can  
3 withstand, and shall cause or permit suitable signs stating  
4 maximum weight to be erected and maintained before each end of  
5 the structure. No person shall operate a vehicle or combination  
6 of vehicles over any structure with a gross weight that is  
7 greater than the posted maximum weight.

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

14 (Source: P.A. 93-177, eff. 7-11-03; 93-186, eff. 1-1-04;  
15 93-1023, eff. 8-25-04; 94-464, eff. 1-1-06.)