

HB2347



98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

HB2347

by Rep. Jay Hoffman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/15-111

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Removes weight limitations on tow vehicles operated in response to a tow request or currently performing a tow operation. Effective immediately.

LRB098 07397 MLW 37461 b

A BILL FOR

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) No vehicle or combination of vehicles with pneumatic
9 tires may be operated, unladen or with load, when the total
10 weight on the road surface exceeds the following: 20,000 pounds
11 on a single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle
12 within the tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds gross
13 weight for vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or a total
14 weight on a group of 2 or more consecutive axles in excess of
15 that weight produced by the application of the following
16 formula: $W = 500 \text{ times the sum of } (LN \text{ divided by } N-1) + 12N +$
17 36 , where "W" equals overall total weight on any group of 2 or
18 more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, "L" equals
19 the distance measured to the nearest foot between extremes of
20 any group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and "N" equals the
21 number of axles in the group under consideration.

22 The above formula when expressed in tabular form results in
23 allowable loads as follows:

| | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 | Distance measured | | | | | |
| 2 | to the nearest | | | | | |
| 3 | foot between the | | | | | |
| 4 | extremes of any | | Maximum weight in pounds | | | |
| 5 | group of 2 or | | of any group of | | | |
| 6 | more consecutive | | 2 or more consecutive axles | | | |
| 7 | axles | | | | | |
| 8 | feet | 2 axles | 3 axles | 4 axles | 5 axles | 6 axles |
| 9 | 4 | 34,000 | | | | |
| 10 | 5 | 34,000 | | | | |
| 11 | 6 | 34,000 | | | | |
| 12 | 7 | 34,000 | | | | |
| 13 | 8 | 38,000* | 42,000 | | | |
| 14 | 9 | 39,000 | 42,500 | | | |
| 15 | 10 | 40,000 | 43,500 | | | |
| 16 | 11 | | 44,000 | | | |
| 17 | 12 | | 45,000 | 50,000 | | |
| 18 | 13 | | 45,500 | 50,500 | | |
| 19 | 14 | | 46,500 | 51,500 | | |
| 20 | 15 | | 47,000 | 52,000 | | |
| 21 | 16 | | 48,000 | 52,500 | 58,000 | |
| 22 | 17 | | 48,500 | 53,500 | 58,500 | |
| 23 | 18 | | 49,500 | 54,000 | 59,000 | |
| 24 | 19 | | 50,000 | 54,500 | 60,000 | |
| 25 | 20 | | 51,000 | 55,500 | 60,500 | 66,000 |

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

1 any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on designated
2 highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving notice are
3 erected upon the street or highway or portion of any street or
4 highway affected by the ordinance or resolution.

5 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

6 (1) Vehicles for which a different limit is established
7 and posted in accordance with Section 15-316 of this Code.

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

12 (3) Cities having a population of more than 50,000 may
13 permit by ordinance axle loads on 2 axle motor vehicles 33
14 1/2% above those provided for herein, but the increase
15 shall not become effective until the city has officially
16 notified the Department of the passage of the ordinance and
17 shall not apply to those vehicles when outside of the
18 limits of the city, nor shall the gross weight of any 2
19 axle motor vehicle operating over any street of the city
20 exceed 40,000 pounds.

21 (4) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles
22 (including loads) operated by a public utility when
23 transporting equipment required for emergency repair of
24 public utility facilities or properties or water wells.

25 (5) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a
26 total weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance

1 between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of
2 tandem axles is 36 feet or more, notwithstanding the lower
3 limit resulting from the application of the above formula.

4 (6) A truck, not in combination and used exclusively
5 for the collection of rendering materials, may, when laden,
6 transmit upon the road surface, except when on part of the
7 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, the
8 following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle;
9 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle.

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

20 (8) Tandem axles on a 3-axle truck registered as a
21 Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the
22 model year of 2014 and first registered in Illinois prior
23 to January 1, 2015, with a distance greater than 72 inches
24 but not more than 96 inches between any series of 2 axles,
25 is allowed a combined weight on the series not to exceed
26 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may exceed

1 20,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type manufactured after
2 the model year of 2014 or first registered in Illinois
3 after December 31, 2014 may not exceed a combined weight of
4 34,000 pounds through the series of 2 axles and neither
5 axle of the series may exceed 20,000 pounds.

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

24 (10) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special
25 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured
26 prior to or in the model year of 2014, and registered in

1 Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, having 5 axles with a
2 distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may not
3 exceed the following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on a
4 single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and 72,000
5 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles is not
6 subject to the bridge formula. For all those combinations
7 of vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured after
8 the effective date of P.A. 92-0417, the overall distance
9 between the first and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems
10 must be 18 feet 6 inches or more. Any combination of
11 vehicles that has had its cargo container replaced in its
12 entirety after December 31, 2014 may not exceed the weights
13 allowed by the bridge formula.

14 (11) The maximum weight allowed on a vehicle with
15 crawler type tracks is 40,000 pounds.

16 (12) Weight limitations shall not apply to tow trucks,
17 with or without a load, operated in response to a tow
18 request or in the process of performing a tow operation. A
19 combination of vehicles, including a tow truck and a
20 disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles, that
21 exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code, may be
22 operated on a public highway in this State ~~provided that~~
23 ~~neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being towed~~
24 ~~nor the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight~~
25 ~~limitations permitted under this Chapter. During the~~
26 ~~towing operation, neither the tow truck nor the vehicle~~

1 ~~combination shall exceed 24,000 pounds on a single rear~~
2 ~~axle and 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle,~~ provided the
3 towing vehicle:

4 (i) is specifically designed as a tow truck having
5 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds
6 and is equipped with air brakes, provided that air
7 brakes are required only if the towing vehicle is
8 towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer
9 combination that is equipped with air brakes;

10 (ii) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or
11 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet
12 in all directions;

13 (iii) is capable of utilizing the lighting and
14 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination
15 of vehicles; and

16 (iv) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles
17 from the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any
18 additional movement of the vehicles may occur only upon
19 issuance of authorization for that movement under the
20 provisions of Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this
21 Code. The towing vehicle, however, may tow any disabled
22 vehicle to a point where repairs are actually to occur.
23 This movement shall be valid only on State routes. The
24 tower must abide by posted bridge weight limits.

25 Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of
26 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license

1 plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck
2 only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered
3 by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the
4 vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid
5 plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is
6 displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that
7 vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of
8 the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate
9 issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and
10 temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed. If a roll-back
11 carrier is registered and being used as a tow truck, however,
12 the license plate or plates for the tow truck must cover the
13 gross vehicle weight, including any load carried on the bed of
14 the roll-back carrier.

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

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

1 (b) As used in this Section, "recycling haul" or "recycling
2 operation" means the hauling of non-hazardous, non-special,
3 non-putrescible materials, such as paper, glass, cans, or
4 plastic, for subsequent use in the secondary materials market.

5 (c) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with
6 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon
7 the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of
8 any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301
9 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

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

16 (e) 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 (f) 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

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

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

13 (Source: P.A. 96-34, eff. 1-1-10; 96-37, eff. 7-13-09; 97-201,
14 eff. 1-1-12.)

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
16 becoming law.