

HB5688



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB5688

by Rep. Daniel V. Beiser

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/15-107

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-107

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that the maximum length of a truck tractor in combination with a semitrailer may not exceed 65 feet (rather than 55 feet) overall dimension on all non-State highways. Removes the requirement that truck tractor-semitrailer combinations must have no more than a maximum 55 feet overall wheel base on Class III roadways and other non-designated State highways. Provides that the distance between the kingpin and the axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches, unless the trailer or semitrailer is used for the transport of livestock.

LRB099 18597 AXK 42979 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 15-107 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 highway
9 of this State may not exceed 42 feet except the following:

10 (1) Semitrailers.

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

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

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

19 (1) A truck tractor in combination with a semitrailer
20 may not exceed 65 ~~55~~ feet overall dimension.

21 (2) A truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer or truck
22 tractor semitrailer-semitrailer may not exceed 60 feet
23 overall dimension.

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

3 (4) The distance between the kingpin and the center
4 axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination
5 with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches. The
6 limit contained in this paragraph (4) shall not apply to
7 trailers or semitrailers used for the transport of
8 livestock as defined by Section 18b-101.

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

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

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

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

7 (c) Except as provided in subsections (c-1) and (c-2),
8 combinations of vehicles may not exceed a total of 2 vehicles
9 except the following:

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

11 (2) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one converter
12 dolly or one semitrailer.

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

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

18 (5) Recreational vehicles consisting of 3 vehicles,
19 provided the following:

20 (A) The total overall dimension does not exceed 60
21 feet.

22 (B) The towing vehicle is a properly registered
23 vehicle capable of towing another vehicle using a
24 fifth-wheel type assembly.

25 (C) The second vehicle in the combination of
26 vehicles is a recreational vehicle that is towed by a

1 fifth-wheel assembly. This vehicle must be properly
2 registered and must be equipped with brakes,
3 regardless of weight.

4 (D) The third vehicle must be the lightest of the 3
5 vehicles and be a trailer or semitrailer designed or
6 used for transporting a boat, all-terrain vehicle,
7 personal watercraft, or motorcycle.

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

10 (F) All vehicles must be properly equipped with
11 operating brakes and safety equipment required by this
12 Code, except the additional brake requirement in
13 subdivision (C) of this subparagraph (5).

14 (6) A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle
15 or combination of disabled vehicles, provided the towing
16 vehicle:

17 (A) Is specifically designed as a tow truck having
18 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds
19 and equipped with air brakes, provided that air brakes
20 are required only if the towing vehicle is towing a
21 vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer combination
22 that is equipped with air brakes. For the purpose of
23 this subsection, gross vehicle weight rating, or GVWR,
24 means the value specified by the manufacturer as the
25 loaded weight of the tow truck.

26 (B) Is equipped with flashing, rotating, or

1 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet
2 in all directions.

3 (C) Is capable of utilizing the lighting and
4 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination
5 of vehicles.

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

12 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe
13 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a
14 tow truck towing another vehicle.

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

19 (7) Commercial vehicles consisting of 3 vehicles,
20 provided the following:

21 (A) The total overall dimension does not exceed 65
22 feet.

23 (B) The towing vehicle is a properly registered
24 vehicle capable of towing another vehicle using a
25 fifth-wheel type assembly or a goose-neck hitch ball.

26 (C) The third vehicle must be the lightest of the 3

1 vehicles and be a trailer or semitrailer.

2 (D) All vehicles must be properly equipped with
3 operating brakes and safety equipment required by this
4 Code.

5 (E) The combination of vehicles must be operated by
6 a person who holds a commercial driver's license (CDL).

7 (F) The combination of vehicles must be en route to
8 a location where new or used trailers are sold by an
9 Illinois or out-of-state licensed new or used trailer
10 dealer.

11 (c-1) A combination of 3 vehicles is allowed access to any
12 State designated highway if:

13 (1) the length of neither towed vehicle exceeds 28.5
14 feet;

15 (2) the overall wheel base of the combination of
16 vehicles does not exceed 62 feet; and

17 (3) the combination of vehicles is en route to a
18 location where new or used trailers are sold by an Illinois
19 or out-of-state licensed new or used trailer dealer.

20 (c-2) A combination of 3 vehicles is allowed access from
21 any State designated highway onto any county, township, or
22 municipal highway for a distance of 5 highway miles for the
23 purpose of delivery or collection of one or both of the towed
24 vehicles if:

25 (1) the length of neither towed vehicle exceeds 28.5
26 feet;

1 (2) the combination of vehicles does not exceed 40,000
2 pounds in gross weight and 8 feet 6 inches in width;

3 (3) there is no sign prohibiting that access;

4 (4) the route is not being used as a thoroughfare
5 between State designated highways; and

6 (5) the combination of vehicles is en route to a
7 location where new or used trailers are sold by an Illinois
8 or out-of-state licensed new or used trailer dealer.

9 (d) On Class I highways there are no overall length
10 limitations on motor vehicles operating in combinations
11 provided:

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

14 (2) The distance between the kingpin and the center of
15 the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in
16 combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 45 feet 6
17 inches. The limit contained in this paragraph (2) shall not
18 apply to trailers or semi-trailers used for the transport
19 of livestock as defined by Section 18b-101.

20 (3) The length of a semitrailer or trailer, unladen or
21 with load, operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer
22 or truck tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination, may
23 not exceed 28 feet 6 inches.

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

26 (5) Combinations of vehicles specifically designed to

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 (e) On Class II 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 load,
26 in combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 53 feet

1 overall dimension.

2 (2) The distance between the kingpin and the center of
3 the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in
4 combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 45 feet 6
5 inches. The limit contained in this paragraph (2) shall not
6 apply to trailers or semi-trailers used for the transport
7 of livestock as defined by Section 18b-101.

8 (3) A truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer or truck
9 tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination may not exceed
10 65 feet in dimension from front axle to rear axle.

11 (4) The length of a semitrailer or trailer, unladen or
12 with load, operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer
13 or truck tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination, may
14 not exceed 28 feet 6 inches.

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

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

23 (7) Stinger steered semitrailer vehicles, as defined
24 in Chapter 1, specifically designed to transport motor
25 vehicles or boats, may not exceed 75 feet overall
26 dimension. The length limitation is inclusive of front and

1 rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the
2 transported vehicles, as provided in paragraph (i) of this
3 Section.

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

7 Vehicles operating during daylight hours when transporting
8 poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a structural
9 nature that cannot readily be dismembered are exempt from
10 length limitations, provided that no object may exceed 80 feet
11 in length and the overall dimension of the vehicle including
12 the load may not exceed 100 feet. This exemption does not apply
13 to operation on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Legal
14 holidays referred to in this Section are the days on which the
15 following traditional holidays are celebrated: New Year's Day;
16 Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day;
17 and Christmas Day.

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

25 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or
26 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph (6)

1 of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length
2 limitations.

3 Local authorities, with respect to streets and highways
4 under their jurisdiction, may also by ordinance or resolution
5 allow length limitations of this subsection (e).

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

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 paragraph (e).

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

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

21 (A) The vehicle does not exceed 80,000 pounds in
22 gross weight and 8 feet 6 inches in width.

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

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

26 (2) From any State designated highway onto any county

1 or township highway for a distance of 5 highway miles or
2 onto any municipal highway for a distance of one highway
3 mile for the purpose of food, fuel, repairs, and rest,
4 provided:

5 (A) The vehicle does not exceed 80,000 pounds in
6 gross weight and 8 feet 6 inches in width.

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

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

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

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

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

22 (e-3) Combinations of vehicles over 65 feet in length
23 operated by household goods carriers, with no overall length
24 limitations except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of
25 this Section, have unlimited access to points of loading and
26 unloading.

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

4 (1) Truck tractor-semitrailer combinations~~7~~ must
5 comply with ~~either a maximum 55 feet overall wheel base or~~
6 a maximum 65 feet extreme overall dimension.

7 (2) Semitrailers, unladen or with load, may not exceed
8 53 feet overall dimension.

9 (3) No truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer or truck
10 tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination may exceed 60
11 feet extreme overall dimension.

12 (4) The distance between the kingpin and the center
13 axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination
14 with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches. The
15 limit contained in this paragraph (4) shall not apply to
16 trailers or semi-trailers used for the transport of
17 livestock as defined by Section 18b-101.

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

20 (1) Vehicles operated in the daytime, except on
21 Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays, when transporting
22 poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural
23 nature that cannot readily be dismembered, provided the
24 overall length of vehicle and load may not exceed 100 feet
25 and no object exceeding 80 feet in length may be
26 transported unless a permit has been obtained as authorized

1 in Section 15-301.

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

9 (3) A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle
10 or combination of disabled vehicles, provided the towing
11 vehicle meets the following conditions:

12 (A) It is specifically designed as a tow truck
13 having a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000
14 pounds and equipped with air brakes, provided that air
15 brakes are required only if the towing vehicle is
16 towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer
17 combination that is equipped with air brakes.

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

21 (C) It is capable of utilizing the lighting and
22 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination
23 of vehicles.

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

26 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe

1 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a tow
2 truck towing another vehicle. The towing vehicle, however, may
3 tow any disabled vehicle from the initial point of wreck or
4 disablement to a point where repairs are actually to occur.
5 This movement shall be valid only on State routes. The tower
6 must abide by posted bridge weight limits.

7 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight
8 rating, or GVWR, shall mean the value specified by the
9 manufacturer as the loaded weight of the tow truck. Legal
10 holidays referred to in this Section shall be specified as the
11 day on which the following traditional holidays are celebrated:

12 New Year's Day;
13 Memorial Day;
14 Independence Day;
15 Labor Day;
16 Thanksgiving Day; and
17 Christmas Day.

18 (h) The load upon any vehicle operated alone, or the load
19 upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not
20 extend more than 3 feet beyond the front wheels of the vehicle
21 or the front bumper of the vehicle if it is equipped with a
22 front bumper. The provisions of this subsection (h) shall not
23 apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles specifically
24 designed for the collection and transportation of waste,
25 garbage, or recyclable materials during the vehicle's
26 operation in the course of collecting garbage, waste, or

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

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

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

20 1. operated by or for any public body or motor carrier
21 authorized by law to provide public transportation
22 services; or

23 2. operated in local public transportation service by
24 any other person and the municipality in which the service
25 is to be provided approved the operation of the vehicle.

26 (j-1) (Blank).

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

4 (1) (Blank).

5 (Source: P.A. 96-34, eff. 1-1-10; 96-37, eff. 7-13-09; 96-1352,
6 eff. 7-28-10; 97-200, eff. 7-27-11; 97-883, eff. 1-1-13.)