

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 15-102 and 15-107 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-102) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-102)
7 Sec. 15-102. Width of Vehicles.

8 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Section or this
9 Code, the total outside width of any vehicle or load thereon
10 shall not exceed 8 feet.

11 (a-1) The total outside width of a recreational vehicle
12 as defined in Section 1-169 may exceed 8 feet 6 inches by no
13 more than 6 inches on one side of the vehicle if the excess
14 width is attributable to appurtenances, including retracted
15 awnings.

16 (b) Except during those times when, due to insufficient
17 light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and
18 vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a
19 distance of 1000 feet, the following vehicles may exceed the
20 8 feet limitation during the period from a half hour before
21 sunrise to a half hour after sunset:

22 (1) Loads of hay, straw or other similar farm
23 products provided that the load is not more than 12 feet
24 wide.

25 (2) Implements of husbandry being transported on
26 another vehicle and the transporting vehicle while
27 loaded.

28 The following requirements apply to the
29 transportation on another vehicle of an implement of
30 husbandry wider than 8 feet 6 inches on the National
31 System of Interstate and Defense Highways or other

1 highways in the system of State highways:

2 (A) The driver of a vehicle transporting an
3 implement of husbandry that exceeds 8 feet 6 inches
4 in width shall obey all traffic laws and shall check
5 the roadways prior to making a movement in order to
6 ensure that adequate clearance is available for the
7 movement. It is prima facie evidence that the
8 driver of a vehicle transporting an implement of
9 husbandry has failed to check the roadway prior to
10 making a movement if the vehicle is involved in a
11 collision with a bridge, overpass, fixed structure,
12 or properly placed traffic control device or if the
13 vehicle blocks traffic due to its inability to
14 proceed because of a bridge, overpass, fixed
15 structure, or properly placed traffic control
16 device.

17 (B) Flags shall be displayed so as to wave
18 freely at the extremities of overwidth objects and
19 at the extreme ends of all protrusions, projections,
20 and overhangs. All flags shall be clean, bright red
21 flags with no advertising, wording, emblem, or
22 insignia inscribed upon them and at least 18 inches
23 square.

24 (C) "OVERSIZE LOAD" signs are mandatory on the
25 front and rear of all vehicles with loads over 10
26 feet wide. These signs must have 12-inch high black
27 letters with a 2-inch stroke on a yellow sign that
28 is 7 feet wide by 18 inches high.

29 (D) One civilian escort vehicle is required
30 for a load that exceeds 14 feet 6 inches in width
31 and 2 civilian escort vehicles are required for a
32 load that exceeds 16 feet in width on the National
33 System of Interstate and Defense Highways or other
34 highways in the system of State highways.

1 (E) The requirements for a civilian escort
2 vehicle and driver are as follows:

3 (1) The civilian escort vehicle shall be
4 a passenger car or a second division vehicle
5 not exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 8,000
6 pounds that is designed to afford clear and
7 unobstructed vision to both front and rear.

8 (2) The escort vehicle driver must be
9 properly licensed to operate the vehicle.

10 (3) While in use, the escort vehicle must
11 be equipped with illuminated rotating,
12 oscillating, or flashing amber lights or
13 flashing amber strobe lights mounted on top
14 that are of sufficient intensity to be visible
15 at 500 feet in normal sunlight.

16 (4) "OVERSIZE LOAD" signs are mandatory
17 on all escort vehicles. The sign on an escort
18 vehicle shall have 8-inch high black letters on
19 a yellow sign that is 5 feet wide by 12 inches
20 high.

21 (5) When only one escort vehicle is
22 required and it is operating on a two-lane
23 highway, the escort vehicle shall travel
24 approximately 300 feet ahead of the load. The
25 rotating, oscillating, or flashing lights or
26 flashing amber strobe lights and an "OVERSIZE
27 LOAD" sign shall be displayed on the escort
28 vehicle and shall be visible from the front.
29 When only one escort vehicle is required and it
30 is operating on a multilane divided highway,
31 the escort vehicle shall travel approximately
32 300 feet behind the load and the sign and
33 lights shall be visible from the rear.

34 (6) When 2 escort vehicles are required,

1 one escort shall travel approximately 300 feet
2 ahead of the load and the second escort shall
3 travel approximately 300 feet behind the load.
4 The rotating, oscillating, or flashing lights
5 or flashing amber strobe lights and an
6 "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign shall be displayed on the
7 escort vehicles and shall be visible from the
8 front on the lead escort and from the rear on
9 the trailing escort.

10 (7) When traveling within the corporate
11 limits of a municipality, the escort vehicle
12 shall maintain a reasonable and proper distance
13 from the oversize load, consistent with
14 existing traffic conditions.

15 (8) A separate escort shall be provided
16 for each load hauled.

17 (9) The driver of an escort vehicle shall
18 obey all traffic laws.

19 (10) The escort vehicle must be in safe
20 operational condition.

21 (11) The driver of the escort vehicle
22 must be in radio contact with the driver of the
23 vehicle carrying the oversize load.

24 (F) A transport vehicle while under load of
25 more than 8 feet 6 inches in width must be equipped
26 with an illuminated rotating, oscillating, or
27 flashing amber light or lights or a flashing amber
28 strobe light or lights mounted on the top of the cab
29 that are of sufficient intensity to be visible at
30 500 feet in normal sunlight. If the load on the
31 transport vehicle blocks the visibility of the amber
32 lighting from the rear of the vehicle, the vehicle
33 must also be equipped with an illuminated rotating,
34 oscillating, or flashing amber light or lights or a

1 flashing amber strobe light or lights mounted on the
2 rear of the load that are of sufficient intensity to
3 be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight.

4 (G) When a flashing amber light is required on
5 the transport vehicle under load and it is operating
6 on a two-lane highway, the transport vehicle shall
7 display to the rear at least one rotating,
8 oscillating, or flashing light or a flashing amber
9 strobe light and an "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign. When a
10 flashing amber light is required on the transport
11 vehicle under load and it is operating on a
12 multilane divided highway, the sign and light shall
13 be visible from the rear.

14 (H) Maximum speed shall be 45 miles per hour
15 on all such moves or 5 miles per hour above the
16 posted minimum speed limit, whichever is greater,
17 but the vehicle shall not at any time exceed the
18 posted maximum speed limit.

19 (3) Portable buildings designed and used for
20 agricultural and livestock raising operations that are
21 not more than 14 feet wide and with not more than a 1
22 foot overhang along the left side of the hauling vehicle.
23 However, the buildings shall not be transported more than
24 10 miles and not on any route that is part of the
25 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

26 All buildings when being transported shall display at
27 least 2 red cloth flags, not less than 12 inches square,
28 mounted as high as practicable on the left and right side of
29 the building.

30 A State Police escort shall be required if it is
31 necessary for this load to use part of the left lane when
32 crossing any 2 laned State highway bridge.

33 (c) Vehicles propelled by electric power obtained from
34 overhead trolley wires operated wholly within the corporate

1 limits of a municipality are also exempt from the width
2 limitation.

3 (d) Exemptions are also granted to vehicles designed for
4 the carrying of more than 10 persons under the following
5 conditions:

6 (1) (Blank);

7 (2) When operated within any public transportation
8 service with the approval of local authorities or an
9 appropriate public body authorized by law to provide
10 public transportation. Any vehicle so operated may be 8
11 feet 6 inches in width; or

12 (3) When a county engineer or superintendent of
13 highways, after giving due consideration to the mass
14 transportation needs of the area and to the width and
15 condition of the road, has determined that the operation
16 of buses wider than 8 feet will not pose an undue safety
17 hazard on a particular county or township road segment,
18 he or she may authorize buses not to exceed 8 feet 6
19 inches in width on any highway under that engineer's or
20 superintendent's jurisdiction.

21 (e) A vehicle and load traveling upon the National
22 System of Interstate and Defense Highways or any other
23 highway in the system of State highways that has been
24 designated as a Class I or Class II highway by the
25 Department, or any street or highway designated by local
26 authorities or road district commissioners, may have a total
27 outside width of 8 feet 6 inches, provided that certain
28 safety devices that the Department determines as necessary
29 for the safe and efficient operation of motor vehicles shall
30 not be included in the calculation of width.

31 Vehicles operating under this paragraph (e) shall have
32 access for a distance of one highway mile to or from a Class
33 I highway on any street or highway, unless there is a sign
34 prohibiting the access, or 5 highway miles to or from a Class

1 I or II highway on a street or highway included in the system
 2 of State highways and upon any street or highway designated
 3 by local authorities or road district commissioners, without
 4 additional fees, to points of loading and unloading and to
 5 facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest. In addition, any
 6 trailer or semitrailer not exceeding 28 feet 6 inches in
 7 length, that was originally in combination with a truck
 8 tractor, and all household goods carriers, when operating
 9 under paragraph (e), shall have access to points of loading
 10 and unloading.

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

14 (f) Mirrors required by Section 12-502 of this Code and
 15 other safety devices identified by the Department may project
 16 up to 14 inches beyond each side of a bus and up to 6 inches
 17 beyond each side of any other vehicle, and that projection
 18 shall not be deemed a violation of the width restrictions of
 19 this Section.

20 (g) Any person who is convicted of violating this
 21 Section is subject to the penalty as provided in paragraph
 22 (b) of Section 15-113.

23 (Source: P.A. 90-14, eff. 7-1-97; 91-780, eff. 6-9-00.)

24 (625 ILCS 5/15-107) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-107)
 25 Sec. 15-107. Length of vehicles.

26 (a) Unless otherwise provided for in this Code, no
 27 single vehicle, with or without load, other than a
 28 semitrailer that is not a housetrailer, shall exceed an
 29 overall length of 42 feet.

30 (a-1) A motor home as defined in Section 1-145.01 may be
 31 up to 45 feet in length, not including energy absorbing
 32 bumpers. The length limitations described in this subsection
 33 (a-1) shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation

1 devices, such as rear view mirrors, turn signals, marker
2 lamps, steps and handholds for entry and egress, flexible
3 fender extensions, bumpers, mudflaps and splash and spray
4 suppressant devices, load-induced tire bulge, refrigeration
5 units or air compressors and other devices, that the
6 Department may interpret as necessary for safe and efficient
7 operation; except that no device excluded under this
8 subsection (a-1) shall have by its design or use the
9 capability to carry cargo.

10 (b) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (f) and
11 unless otherwise provided in this Code, no truck tractor and
12 semitrailer, unladen or with load, except a semitrailer other
13 than a house trailer, shall exceed a length of 55 feet
14 extreme overall dimension, except that the combination when
15 specially designed to transport motor vehicles may have a
16 length of 60 feet extreme overall dimension, subject to those
17 exceptions and special rules otherwise stated in this Code.
18 No other combination of vehicles, unladen or with load, shall
19 exceed a length of 60 feet extreme overall dimension.

20 (c) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one trailer, or
21 a converter dolly, or a vehicle that is special mobile
22 equipment if the extreme length of the combination does not
23 exceed 60 feet, and a truck in transit may draw 3 trucks in
24 transit coupled together by the triple saddlemount method.
25 Except as otherwise provided, no other combinations of
26 vehicles coupled together shall consist of more than 2
27 vehicles. For the purposes of this paragraph, a tow-dolly
28 that merely serves as substitute wheels for another legally
29 licensed vehicle will be considered part of the vehicle and
30 not as a separate vehicle.

31 Vehicles in combination, whether being operated
32 intrastate or interstate, shall be operated and towed in
33 compliance with all requirements of Federal Highway
34 Administration, Title 49, C. F. R., Motor Carrier Safety

1 Regulations, pertaining to coupling devices and towing
2 methods and all other equipment safety requirements set forth
3 in the regulations.

4 (c-1) A recreational vehicle as defined in Section 1-169
5 may tow another vehicle if the total length of the
6 combination of vehicles does not exceed 65 feet. The length
7 limitations described in this subsection (c-1) shall be
8 exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices, such as
9 rear view mirrors, turn signals, marker lamps, steps and
10 handholds for entry and egress, flexible fender extensions,
11 bumpers, mudflaps and splash and spray suppressant devices,
12 load-induced tire bulge, refrigeration units or air
13 compressors and other devices, that the Department may
14 interpret as necessary for safe and efficient operation;
15 except that no device excluded under this subsection (c-1)
16 shall have by its design or use the capability to carry
17 cargo.

18 (d) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Code,
19 there is no overall length limitation on motor vehicles
20 operating in truck tractor-semitrailer or truck
21 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combinations, except that
22 maxi-cube combinations as defined in this Section, and a
23 combination of vehicles specifically designed to transport
24 motor vehicles or boats, shall not exceed 65 feet overall
25 length, and provided that a stinger steered combination of
26 vehicles specifically designed to transport motor vehicles or
27 boats and a truck in transit transporting 3 trucks coupled
28 together by the triple saddlemount method shall not exceed 75
29 feet overall length, with the length limitations inclusive of
30 front and rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the
31 transported vehicles as provided for in paragraph (i) of this
32 Section, upon the National System of Interstate and Defense
33 Highways or any other highways in the system of State
34 highways that have been designated Class I highways by the

1 Department or any street or highway designated by local
2 authorities or road district commissioners; provided that the
3 length of the semitrailer unit, unladen or with load,
4 operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination shall not
5 exceed 53 feet and the distance between the kingpin and the
6 center of the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet
7 shall not exceed 45 feet, 6 inches; and provided that the
8 length of any semitrailer or trailer, unladen or with load,
9 operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination
10 shall not exceed 28 feet 6 inches.

11 The length limitations described in this paragraph (d)
12 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,
13 such as rear view mirrors, turn signals, marker lamps, steps
14 and handholds for entry and egress, flexible fender
15 extensions, bumpers, mudflaps and splash and spray
16 suppressant devices, load-induced tire bulge, refrigeration
17 units or air compressors and other devices, that the
18 Department may interpret as necessary for safe and efficient
19 operation; except that no device excluded under this
20 paragraph shall have by its design or use the capability to
21 carry cargo.

22 Vehicles operating under this paragraph (d) shall have
23 access for a distance of one highway mile to or from a Class
24 I highway on any street or highway, unless there is a sign
25 prohibiting the access, or 5 highway miles on a street or
26 highway in the system of State highways, and upon any street
27 or highway designated, without additional fees, by local
28 authorities or road district commissioners, to points of
29 loading and unloading and facilities for food, fuel, repairs
30 and rest. Household goods carriers shall have access to
31 points of loading and unloading.

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

1 (e) In addition to the designation of highways under
2 paragraph (d) the Department may designate other streets or
3 highways in the system of State highways as Class II
4 highways. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Code,
5 effective June 1, 1996 there is no overall length limitation
6 on motor vehicles operating in truck tractor-semitrailer
7 combinations operating upon designated Class II highways,
8 provided the length of the semitrailer unit, unladen or with
9 load, operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination
10 shall not exceed 53 feet and the distance between the kingpin
11 and the center of the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than
12 48 feet shall not exceed 45 feet, 6 inches. A truck
13 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination may be operated
14 provided that the wheelbase between the front axle and rear
15 axle shall not exceed 65 feet and the length of any
16 semitrailer or trailer, unladen or with load, in a
17 combination shall not exceed 28 feet 6 inches. Local
18 authorities and road district commissioners with respect to
19 streets and highways under their jurisdiction, may also by
20 ordinance or resolution allow the length limitations of this
21 paragraph (e).

22 A maxi-cube combination, a truck in transit transporting
23 3 trucks coupled together by the triple saddlemount method,
24 and a combination of vehicles specifically designed to
25 transport motor vehicles or boats may operate on the
26 designated streets or highways provided the overall length
27 shall not exceed 65 feet, and provided that a stinger steered
28 combination of vehicles specifically designed to transport
29 motor vehicles or boats shall not exceed 75 feet overall
30 length, with the length limitations inclusive of front and
31 rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the transported
32 vehicles as provided for in paragraph (i) of this Section.

33 The length limitations described in this paragraph (e)
34 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,

1 such as rear view mirrors, turn signals, marker lamps, steps
2 and handholds for entry and egress, flexible fender
3 extensions, bumpers, mudflaps and splash and spray
4 suppressant devices, load-induced tire bulge, refrigeration
5 units or air compressors and other devices, that the
6 Department may interpret as necessary for safe and efficient
7 operation; except that no device excluded under this
8 paragraph shall have by its design or use the capability to
9 carry cargo.

10 Vehicles operating under this paragraph (e) shall have
11 access for a distance of 5 highway miles on a street or
12 highway in the system of State highways, and upon any street
13 or highway designated by local authorities or road district
14 commissioners, to points of loading and unloading and to
15 facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest. Household goods
16 carriers shall have access to points of loading and
17 unloading.

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

21 (f) On any street or highway in the system of State
22 highways that has not been designated by the Department under
23 paragraph (d) or (e), the wheelbase between the front axle
24 and the rear axle in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination
25 shall not exceed 55 feet or, effective June 1, 1996, no truck
26 tractor and semitrailer, unladen or with load, except a
27 semitrailer other than a house trailer, shall exceed a length
28 of 65 feet between extreme overall dimensions, the length of
29 the semitrailer, unladen or with load, shall not exceed 53
30 feet and the distance between the kingpin and the center of
31 the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet shall not
32 exceed 42 feet, 6 inches. On any street or highway in the
33 State system of highways that has not been designated by the
34 Department under paragraph (d) or (e), no truck

1 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination shall exceed a length
2 of 60 feet extreme overall dimension.

3 (g) Length limitations in the preceding subsections of
4 this Section 15-107 shall not apply to vehicles operated in
5 the daytime, except on Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays,
6 when transporting poles, pipe, machinery or other objects of
7 a structural nature that cannot readily be dismembered, nor
8 to vehicles transporting those objects operated on Saturdays,
9 Sundays or legal holidays or at nighttime by a public utility
10 when required for emergency repair of public service
11 facilities or properties, but in respect to the night
12 operation every vehicle and the load thereon shall be
13 equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both
14 sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any
15 projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load,
16 provided that the overall length of vehicle and load shall
17 not exceed 100 feet and no object exceeding 80 feet in length
18 shall be transported, except by a public utility when
19 required for emergency repairs, unless a permit has first
20 been obtained as authorized in Section 15-301. A combination
21 of vehicles, including a tow truck and a disabled vehicle or
22 disabled combination of vehicles, that exceeds the length
23 restriction imposed by this Code, may be operated on a public
24 highway in this State upon the following conditions:

- 25 (1) The towing vehicle must be:
 - 26 a. specifically designed as a tow truck having
 - 27 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000
 - 28 lbs. and equipped with air brakes;
 - 29 b. equipped with flashing, rotating or
 - 30 oscillating amber lights, visible for a least 500
 - 31 feet in all directions; and
 - 32 c. capable of utilizing the lighting and
 - 33 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or
 - 34 combination of vehicles.

1 (2) The towing of vehicles on the highways of this
2 State shall not exceed 50 miles from the initial point of
3 wreck or disablement. Any additional movement of the
4 vehicles shall only occur upon issuance of authorization
5 for that movement under the provisions of Section 15-301
6 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

7 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe
8 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a
9 tow truck towing another vehicle.

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

- 16 New Year's Day;
- 17 Memorial Day;
- 18 Independence Day;
- 19 Labor Day;
- 20 Thanksgiving Day; and
- 21 Christmas Day.

22 (h) The load upon any vehicle operated alone, or the
23 load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles,
24 shall not extend more than 3 feet beyond the front wheels of
25 the vehicle or the front bumper of the vehicle if it is
26 equipped with a front bumper. The provisions of this
27 subsection (h) shall not apply to any vehicle or combination
28 of vehicles specifically designed for the collection and
29 transportation of waste, garbage, or recyclable materials
30 during the vehicle's operation in the course of collecting
31 garbage, waste, or recyclable materials if the vehicle is
32 traveling at a speed not in excess of 15 miles per hour
33 during the vehicle's operation and in the course of
34 collecting garbage, waste, or recyclable materials. However,

1 in no instance shall the load extend more than 7 feet beyond
2 the front wheels of the vehicle or the front bumper of the
3 vehicle if it is equipped with a front bumper.

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

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

17 1. operated by or for any public body or motor
18 carrier authorized by law to provide public
19 transportation services; or

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

24 (j-1) Charter or regulated route buses may be up to 45
25 feet in length, not including energy absorbing bumpers.

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

29 (l) A combination of 3 vehicles not to exceed 60 feet
30 overall length may be operated on the highways of the State,
31 provided that the vehicles meet the following requirements:

32 (1) The towing vehicle is a properly registered
33 vehicle capable of towing another vehicle using a
34 fifth-wheel type assembly.

1 (2) The second vehicle in the combination of
2 vehicles shall be a recreational vehicle that is towed by
3 a fifth-wheel assembly. This vehicle shall be properly
4 registered and be equipped with brakes regardless of
5 weight.

6 (3) The third vehicle shall be the lightest of the
7 3 vehicles and be a trailer or semi-trailer designed or
8 used for transporting a boat, all-terrain vehicle,
9 personal watercraft, or motorcycle.

10 (4) The towed vehicles may only be for the use of
11 the operator of the towing vehicle.

12 (5) All vehicles shall be properly equipped with
13 operating brakes and safety equipment required by this
14 Code, except the additional brake requirement in
15 paragraph (2) above.

16 (Source: P.A. 89-219, eff. 1-1-96; 89-434, eff. 6-1-96;
17 89-626, eff. 8-9-96; 90-89, eff. 1-1-98; 90-147, eff.
18 7-23-97; 90-407, eff. 8-15-97; 90-655, eff. 7-30-98.)