

CHAPTER 1100
LENGTH AND WEIGHT OF VEHICLES
H. F. 747

AN ACT relating to the length, weight, and annual registration fees of vehicles and combinations of vehicles and providing penalties for violations.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section three hundred twelve point two (312.2), Code 1979, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. The treasurer of state, before making the other allotments provided for in this section, shall credit annually to the primary road fund from the road use tax fund the sum of four million four hundred thousand dollars and to the farm-to-market road fund from the road use tax fund the sum of one million five hundred thousand dollars for partial compensation of allowing trucks to operate on the roads of this state as provided in section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred sixty-three (321.463) of the Code.

Sec. 2. Section three hundred twenty-one point one (321.1), subsection one (1), paragraph c, Code 1979, as the section is amended by Acts of the Sixty-eighth General Assembly, 1979 Session, chapter seventy (70), sections one (1) and two (2), and chapter seventy-four (74), section twenty-two (22), is amended by striking the paragraph.

Sec. 3. Section three hundred twenty-one point one (321.1), subsection sixty-nine (69), Code 1979, as the section is amended by Acts of the Sixty-eighth General Assembly, 1979 Session, chapter seventy (70), sections one (1) and two (2), and chapter seventy-four (74), section twenty-two (22), is amended by striking the subsection.

Sec. 4. Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred twenty-one (321.121), Code 1979, is amended to read as follows:

321.121 SPECIAL TRUCKS FOR FARM USE. The registration fee for a special truck shall be one hundred twenty dollars for a gross weight of eight tons, and in addition, fifteen dollars for each ton over eight tons. Any person convicted of using a truck registered as a special truck for any purpose other than permitted by section 321.1, subsection 72, shall, in addition to any other penalty imposed by law, be required to pay regular motor truck registration fees upon such truck.

Sec. 5. Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred twenty-two (321.122), subsection one (1), Code 1979, is amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

1. The annual registration fee for truck tractors, road tractors, and motor trucks, except special trucks, shall be based on the combined gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles. All trucks, truck tractors, or road tractors shall be registered for a gross weight equal to or in excess of the unladen weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles.

The annual registration fee for such vehicles or combination of vehicles shall be:

a. For a combined gross weight of three tons or less forty-five dollars and after ten full registrations thirty-five dollars.

b. For a combined gross weight exceeding three tons, the annual registration fee shall be as set forth in the following schedule:

For a combined gross weight exceeding:	And not exceeding:	The annual registration fee shall be:
3 Tons	4 Tons	\$ 60
4 Tons	5 Tons	\$ 70
5 Tons	6 Tons	\$ 85
6 Tons	7 Tons	\$ 110
7 Tons	8 Tons	\$ 145
8 Tons	9 Tons	\$ 180
9 Tons	10 Tons	\$ 215
10 Tons	11 Tons	\$ 250
11 Tons	12 Tons	\$ 285
12 Tons	13 Tons	\$ 320
13 Tons	14 Tons	\$ 355
14 Tons	15 Tons	\$ 445
15 Tons	16 Tons	\$ 485
16 Tons	17 Tons	\$ 525
17 Tons	18 Tons	\$ 565
18 Tons	19 Tons	\$ 610
19 Tons	20 Tons	\$ 675
20 Tons	21 Tons	\$ 715
21 Tons	22 Tons	\$ 755
22 Tons	23 Tons	\$ 795
23 Tons	24 Tons	\$ 835
24 Tons	25 Tons	\$ 965
25 Tons	26 Tons	\$ 1,010
26 Tons	27 Tons	\$ 1,060
27 Tons	28 Tons	\$ 1,105
28 Tons	29 Tons	\$ 1,150
29 Tons	30 Tons	\$ 1,200
30 Tons	31 Tons	\$ 1,245
31 Tons	32 Tons	\$ 1,295
32 Tons	33 Tons	\$ 1,340
33 Tons	34 Tons	\$ 1,415
34 Tons	35 Tons	\$ 1,465
35 Tons	36 Tons	\$ 1,510
36 Tons	37 Tons	\$ 1,555
37 Tons	38 Tons	\$ 1,605
38 Tons	39 Tons	\$ 1,650
39 Tons	40 Tons	\$ 1,695

c. For a combined gross weight exceeding forty tons, the annual registration fee shall be one thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars plus eighty dollars for each ton over forty tons.

Sec. 6. Section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred twenty-two (321.122), subsection four (4), Code 1979, is amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

4.* This subsection shall not be construed to require a license** for the operation of a rubber-tired farm tractor not for hire upon the public highways.

Sec. 7. Section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred fifty-seven (321.457), subsection three (3), Code 1979, is amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

3. Except for combinations of vehicles, provisions for which are otherwise made in this chapter, no combination of a truck tractor and a semitrailer coupled together unladen or with load, shall have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of sixty feet.

Sec. 8. Section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred fifty-seven (321.457), subsection five (5), Code 1979, is amended by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

5. Combinations of vehicles coupled together which are used exclusively for the transportation of passenger vehicles, light delivery trucks, panel delivery trucks, pickup trucks and boats may be permitted to extend the load up to three feet beyond the front and rear bumpers of the transporting vehicle when the overall length of the vehicle with load does not exceed sixty-five feet.

Sec. 9. Section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred fifty-seven (321.457), Code 1979, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. A semitrailer shall not have a total length of more than forty-five feet nor a distance between the kingpin and the center of the rearmost axle of a semitrailer in excess of forty feet, except a semitrailer used principally for hauling livestock, a semitrailer used exclusively for the purposes of hauling self-propelled industrial and construction equipment, or a semitrailer used exclusively for the purposes described in subsection five (5) of this section. A nonexempt semitrailer in excess of forty-five feet in length which is a 1980 or older model year may be operated on the highways of this state if a special overlength permit is obtained from the department for the vehicle. The special overlength permit shall be valid until such time as the semitrailer is inoperable.

Sec. 10. Section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred fifty-nine (321.459), Code 1979, is amended by striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

321.459 DUAL AXLE REQUIREMENT. Axles of a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer which are less than forty inches apart center to center shall be considered as a single axle for the purpose of determining permissible gross weight under section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred sixty-three (321.463) of the Code.

Sec. 11. Section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred sixty-three (321.463), Code 1979, is amended by striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

*Amended by ch 1094, §14 hereof
**"Registration" probably intended

321.463 MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT. An axle may be divided into two or more parts, except that all parts in the same vertical transverse plane shall be considered as one axle.

The gross weight on any one axle of a vehicle, or of a combination of vehicles, operated on the highways of this state, shall not exceed twenty thousand pounds on an axle equipped with pneumatic tires, and shall not exceed fourteen thousand pounds on an axle equipped with solid rubber tires. The gross weight on any tandem axle of a vehicle, or any combination of vehicles, shall not exceed thirty-four thousand pounds on an axle equipped with pneumatic tires.

A group of two or more consecutive axles of any vehicle or combination of vehicles, shall not carry a load in pounds in excess of the overall gross weight determined by application of the following formula: W equals $500(LN/N-1 + 12N + 36)$ where W equals the overall gross weight on any group of two or more consecutive axles to the nearest five hundred pounds, L equals the distance in feet, rounded to the nearest whole foot, between the extreme of any group of two or more consecutive axles, and N equals the number of axles in the group under consideration, except that two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of thirty-four thousand pounds each providing the overall distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem axles is thirty-six feet or more.

The maximum gross weight shall not exceed eighty thousand pounds.

The weight on any one axle, including a tandem axle, of a vehicle which is transporting livestock on highways not part of the interstate system may exceed the legal maximum weight given in this chapter providing that the gross weight on any particular group of axles on such vehicle does not exceed the gross weight allowable under this chapter for such groups of axles.

A person who operates a vehicle in violation of the provisions of this section, and an owner, or any other person, employing or otherwise directing the operator of a vehicle, who requires or knowingly permits the operation of a vehicle in violation of the provisions of this section shall be fined according to the following schedule:

AXLE, TANDEM AXLE, AND GROUP OF AXLES WEIGHT VIOLATIONS

Pounds Overloaded	Amount of Fine
Up to and including 1,000 pounds	\$10 plus one-half cent per pound
Over 1,000 pounds to and including 2,000 pounds	\$15 plus one-half cent per pound
Over 2,000 pounds to and including 3,000 pounds	\$80 plus three cents per pound
Over 3,000 pounds to and including 4,000 pounds	\$100 plus four cents per pound
Over 4,000 pounds to and including 5,000 pounds	\$150 plus five cents per pound
Over 5,000 pounds to and including 6,000 pounds	\$200 plus seven cents per pound
Over 6,000 pounds	\$200 plus ten cents per pound

Fines for gross weight violations for vehicles or combinations of vehicles shall be assessed at one-half of the fine rate schedule for axle, tandem axle, and groups of axles weight violations.

The amount of the fine to be assessed shall be computed on the difference between the actual weight and the maximum legal weight specified in this section by applying the appropriate rate in the preceding schedule for the total amount of overload.

The schedule of fines may be assessed in addition to any other penalties provided for in this chapter.

Overloads on axles and tandem axles and overloads on groups of axles or on an entire vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be considered as separate violations of the provisions of this section.

A person who issues or executes, or causes to be issued or executed, a bill of lading, manifest, or shipping document of any kind which states a false weight of the cargo set forth on such bill, manifest, or document, which is less than the actual weight of the cargo, shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

Sec. 12.* The department shall issue permits for the period beginning fifteen days following the effective date of this Act to December 31, 1980 to interstate and intrastate carriers that apply for registration authority at a weight higher than the current registered gross weight. The department shall assess a prorated fee from the schedule of fees set forth in section five (5) of this Act. Permit fees shall be payable on an annual basis. A minimum fee of ten dollars shall be collected by the department. Trucks, motor trucks, and truck tractors registered under the provisions of section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred twenty-two (321.122) of the Code on the effective date of this Act shall not be eligible to reregister under section three hundred twenty-one point one hundred twenty-one (321.121) of the Code during the 1980 registration year. The commission shall adopt temporary rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of this Act as it relates to revised registrations in 1980 and temporary rules adopted for this purpose are not rules as defined in section seventeen A point two (17A.2), subsection seven (7), of the Code and shall not be subject to chapter seventeen A (17A) of the Code.

Sec. 13. The director of the department of transportation shall give consideration to increasing the hours of operation and employees designated to operate permanent weigh stations as provided by section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred seventy-seven (321.477) of the Code.

Sec. 14. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect from and after its publication in the Globe-Gazette, a newspaper published in Mason City, Iowa, and in The Sioux City Journal, a newspaper published in Sioux City, Iowa.

Approved March 21, 1980

I hereby certify that the foregoing Act, House File 747, was published in the Globe-Gazette, Mason City, Iowa on March 28, 1980, and republished April 11, 1980, and published in The Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, Iowa on March 29, 1980 and republished April 11, 1980.

MELVIN D. SYNHORST, *Secretary of State*

*Amended by ch 1094, §42 hereof