

Transportation
Drake, Chairperson
Ashcraft
Robinson
Hutchins
Coleman

FILED FEB 20 1978

SENATE FILE 2129

By PRIEBE

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the weight of motor vehicles.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25

1 Section 1. Section three hundred twenty-one point four
2 hundred fifty-nine (321.459), Code 1977, is amended by striking
3 the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

4 321.459 DUAL AXLE REQUIREMENT. Axles of a motor vehicle,
5 trailer, or semitrailer which are less than forty inches apart
6 center to center shall be considered as one axle for the
7 purpose of determining permissible weight under section three
8 hundred twenty-one point four hundred sixty-three (321.463)
9 of the Code.

10 Sec. 2. Section three hundred twenty-one point four hundred
11 sixty-three (321.463), Code 1977, is amended by striking the
12 section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

13 321.463 MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT. An axle may be divided
14 into two or more parts, except that all parts in the same
15 vertical transverse plane shall be considered as one axle.

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

24 A group of two or more consecutive axles of any vehicle
25 or combination of vehicles, shall not carry a load in pounds
26 in excess of the overall gross weight determined by application
27 of the following formula: $W = 500 (LN/N-1 + 12N + 36)$ where
28 W equals the overall gross weight on any group of two or more
29 consecutive axles to the nearest five hundred pounds, L equals
30 the distance in feet between the extreme of any group of two
31 or more consecutive axles, and N equals the number of axles
32 in group under consideration, except that two consecutive
33 sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of thirty-four
34 thousand pounds each providing the overall distance between
35 the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem

1 axles is thirty-six feet or more.

2 In no event shall the maximum gross weight, including the
3 enforcement tolerances, exceed eighty thousand pounds.

4 A tolerance above the maximum legal weight of any axle
5 or vehicle or combination of vehicles may be allowed as
6 follows:

7 Three percent on any axle, including tandem axles, of any
8 vehicle or combination of vehicles operated on highways not
9 part of the interstate system.

10 Eight percent of the gross weight on any particular group
11 of axles.

12 Eight percent on the total gross weight of a vehicle or
13 combination of vehicles.

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

21 Any person who operates any vehicle in violation of the
22 provisions of this section, and any owner, or any other person,
23 employing or otherwise directing the operator of any vehicle
24 who requires or knowingly permits the operation of any vehicle
25 in violation of the provisions of this section shall upon
26 conviction or a plea of guilty be punished in accordance with
27 the following schedule:

28 AXLE, TANDEM AXLE, GROUP OF AXLES, AND	
29 GROSS WEIGHT VIOLATIONS	
30 Percentage of	Amount of Fine
31 Overload	Per Hundred Pounds
32 Up to and including 8%	\$1.00
33 Over 8% to and including 10%	1.25
34 Over 10% to and including 12%	1.50
35 Over 12% to and including 14%	2.00

1	Over 14% to and including 16%	3.00
2	Over 16% to and including 18%	4.00
3	Over 18% to and including 20%	5.00
4	Over 20%	6.00

5 A fine shall not be assessed if the overload does not
6 exceed the tolerance specified in this section. If the
7 overload does exceed the tolerance specified in this section,
8 the amount of the fine to be assessed shall be computed on
9 the difference between the actual weight and the maximum legal
10 weight specified in this section without allowance of any
11 tolerance, by applying the appropriate rate in the preceding
12 schedule for the total percentage of overload. The total
13 percentage of overload shall be determined by dividing the
14 appropriate maximum legal weight as specified in this section
15 without allowance for any tolerance into the amount of pounds
16 overloaded.

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

21 The penalties herein provided shall not be construed to
22 be in lieu of any other penalties provided for violations
23 of other provisions of this chapter.

24 Any person who issues or executes, or causes to be issued
25 or executed, any bill of lading, manifest, or shipping document
26 of any kind which states the false weight of the cargo set
27 forth on such bill, manifest, or document, to be less than
28 the actual weight of such cargo, shall be punished by a fine
29 of not more than one hundred dollars or by imprisonment for
30 not more than thirty days.

31 EXPLANATION

32 This bill increases the maximum weight limits of vehicles
33 and combinations of vehicles operating on Iowa highways to
34 the maximum limits allowed by the Federal-Aid Highway Act
35 of 1974.