

TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE FILE 2319

By HARBOR

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approved \_\_\_\_\_

### A BILL FOR

1 An Act to authorize the issuance of special permits for the  
 2 operation of vehicles and combinations of vehicles on the  
 3 highways of the state which exceed the weight limitations  
 4 imposed by law during certain periods of the year.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. Chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code  
2 1977, is amended by adding the following new section:

3 NEW SECTION.

4 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections three hundred  
5 twenty-one point four hundred sixty-three (321.463) and three  
6 hundred twenty-one point four hundred sixty-six (321.466)  
7 of the Code, the state department of transportation may with  
8 respect to highways under its jurisdiction including the  
9 national system of interstate and defense highways, and local  
10 authorities with respect to highways under their jurisdiction  
11 may in their discretion and upon application and good cause  
12 being shown, issue a special permit in writing authorizing  
13 the applicant to operate vehicles from September fifteenth  
14 to December fifteenth loaded up to a maximum weight of eighty  
15 thousand pounds when carrying corn or other seasonally  
16 harvested products from the field where they are harvested  
17 to storage or market when failure to move in abundant  
18 quantities would cause an economic loss to the person whose  
19 products are being transported or when failure to move such  
20 products in as large quantities as possible would not be in  
21 the best interests of the national defense or general welfare.  
22 However, the gross weight on any one axle operated under a  
23 special permit issued under this section shall not exceed  
24 twenty thousand pounds and the gross weight on any tandem  
25 axles shall not exceed thirty-four thousand pounds.

26 2. The application for a permit shall specifically describe  
27 the vehicle and the load to be operated or moved and whenever  
28 possible the particular highways, roads, or streets for which  
29 permit to operate is requested.

30 3. The department or local authority may issue such permit  
31 at its discretion and, if such permit is issued, to prescribe  
32 conditions of operation of such vehicle, when necessary to  
33 assure against undue damage to the road foundations, surfaces,  
34 or structures or undue danger to the public safety, and may  
35 require such undertaking or other security as may be deemed

1 necessary to compensate for any injury to any roadway or road  
2 structure.

3 4. Every permit shall be carried in the vehicle to which  
4 it refers and shall be open to inspection by any police officer  
5 or authorized agent of any authority granting the permit.  
6 A special decal shall also be issued to the applicant who  
7 shall affix the decal in the lower left corner of the vehicle's  
8 windshield. Each permit shall state the maximum weight  
9 permissible on a single axle or combination of axles and the  
10 total gross weight allowed. A person shall not violate any  
11 of the terms or conditions of the special permit and in case  
12 of any violation, the permit shall be deemed automatically  
13 revoked and the penalty of the original limitations shall  
14 be applied unless the violation consists solely of exceeding  
15 the size or weight specified by the permit, in which case  
16 only the penalty of the original size or weight limitation  
17 exceeded shall be applied, or unless the total gross load  
18 is within the maximum authorized by the permit and no axle  
19 is more than ten percent in excess of the maximum load for  
20 such axle or group of axles authorized by the permit and such  
21 load can be shifted to meet the weight limitations of wheel  
22 and axle loads authorized by such permit. Such shift may  
23 be made without penalty provided that such shift is made at  
24 the state or commercial scale designated in the permit. The  
25 vehicle may travel from its point of origin to such designated  
26 scale without penalty, and a scale ticket from such scale,  
27 showing the vehicle to be properly loaded and within the gross  
28 and axle weights authorized by the permit, shall be reasonable  
29 evidence of compliance with the terms of the permit.

30 5. The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
31 seventeen A (17A) of the Code with respect to the issuance  
32 of permits provided for in this section.

33 6. The department or local authority issuing a permit  
34 shall require a permit fee of twenty-five dollars.

35 EXPLANATION

1 The bill allows the state department of transportation  
2 and local authorities to issue special overload permits for  
3 a period from September 15 to December 15 to allow the movement  
4 of corn and other seasonally harvested products from the field  
5 to storage or market. The maximum overload is eighty thousand  
6 pounds with a limit of twenty thousand pounds on a single  
7 axle and a limit thirty-four thousand pounds on a tandem axle.

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