

House File 465 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 465

BY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 251)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the enforcement of weight limitations for
2 vehicles with retractable axles.

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

1 Section 1. Section 321.463, Code 2011, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 12A. *a.* A vehicle or combination of
4 vehicles equipped with a retractable axle may raise the
5 axle when necessary to negotiate a turn, provided that the
6 retractable axle is lowered within one thousand feet following
7 completion of the turn. This paragraph does not apply to a
8 vehicle or combination of vehicles operated on an interstate
9 highway, including a ramp to or from an interstate highway, or
10 on a bridge.

11 *b.* A vehicle or combination of vehicles operated with a
12 retractable axle raised as permitted under paragraph "*a*" is
13 exempt from the weight limitations of this section as long as
14 the vehicle or combination of vehicles is in compliance with
15 the weight limitations of this section when the retractable
16 axle is lowered.

17 *c.* This subsection does not prohibit the operation of a
18 vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with a retractable
19 axle from operating with the retractable axle raised when the
20 vehicle or combination of vehicles is in compliance with the
21 weight limitations of this section with the retractable axle
22 raised.

23 EXPLANATION

24 This bill allows a vehicle or combination of vehicles to
25 raise a retractable axle when necessary to negotiate a turn,
26 provided the retractable axle is lowered within one thousand
27 feet of completing the turn. The vehicle or combination of
28 vehicles is exempt from axle weight limitations while making
29 the turn with a raised retractable axle, so long as the vehicle
30 is in compliance when the retractable axle is lowered. The
31 exemption does not apply on an interstate highway, including a
32 ramp leading to or from the interstate, or on a bridge.