

House Study Bill 54 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON CARLSON)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act permitting the transportation of raw forest and
2 agricultural products on motor vehicles exceeding certain
3 maximum gross weight limitations.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.463, subsection 3, Code 2017, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. Notwithstanding other provisions of **this chapter** to
4 the contrary, indivisible loads operating under the permit
5 requirements of **sections 321E.7, 321E.8, 321E.9, 321E.26,** and
6 321E.29A shall be allowed a maximum of twenty thousand pounds
7 per axle.

8 Sec. 2. Section 321E.7, subsection 1, Code 2017, is amended
9 by adding the following new paragraph:

10 NEW PARAGRAPH. *f.* Raw forest and agricultural product
11 transporters operating under a permit issued pursuant to
12 section 321E.26 shall not exceed the axle and gross weights
13 specified in that section.

14 Sec. 3. Section 321E.14, subsection 1, Code 2017, is amended
15 by adding the following new paragraph:

16 NEW PARAGRAPH. *j.* One hundred dollars for a permit issued
17 pursuant to section 321E.26 for a vehicle or combination
18 of vehicles with a maximum gross weight of ninety thousand
19 pounds or less, and one hundred seventy-five dollars for a
20 permit issued pursuant to section 321E.26 for a combination of
21 vehicles with a maximum gross weight of ninety-eight thousand
22 pounds or less but more than ninety thousand pounds.

23 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. **321E.26 Transportation of raw forest**
24 **and agricultural products.**

25 1. A permit-issuing authority may issue annual permits
26 for the operation of a vehicle or combination of vehicles
27 transporting raw forest products, fruits, or vegetables from
28 fields to storage or processing facilities. A vehicle or
29 combination of vehicles for which a permit is issued under this
30 section may exceed the maximum gross weight limitations set
31 forth under section 321.463, subsection 5, paragraphs "a" and
32 "b", by not more than ten thousand pounds. The combined gross
33 weight or gross weight on any axle or group of axles of the
34 vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed the limits
35 established under section 321.463.

1 2. Notwithstanding subsection 1, a combination of vehicles
2 for which a permit is issued under this section that is
3 transporting raw forest products may exceed the maximum gross
4 weight limitations set forth under section 321.463, subsection
5 5, paragraphs "a" and "b", by not more than eighteen thousand
6 pounds if the combination of vehicles has six or more axles
7 and the gross weight on any one axle does not exceed eighteen
8 thousand pounds and the gross weight on any steering axle does
9 not exceed thirteen thousand pounds or the manufacturer's rated
10 capacity, whichever is greater, but not more than eighteen
11 thousand pounds. Any axle of a combination of vehicles that
12 does not impose on the highway at least eight percent of
13 the gross weight of the combination of vehicles shall not be
14 counted as an axle for the purposes of this subsection.

15 3. A vehicle or combination of vehicles for which a permit
16 is issued under this section shall not travel on any portion of
17 the interstate highway system.

18 4. For the purposes of this section, "*raw forest products*"
19 means logs, pilings, posts, poles, cordwood products, wood
20 chips, sawdust, pulpwood, intermediary lumber, fuel wood, and
21 Christmas trees not altered by a manufacturing process off the
22 land, sawmill, or factory from which the products were taken.

23

EXPLANATION

24 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
25 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

26 This bill allows the department of transportation and local
27 authorities to issue annual permits authorizing a vehicle or
28 combination of vehicles to transport raw forest products,
29 fruits, or vegetables from fields to storage or processing
30 facilities. A vehicle or combination of vehicles for which a
31 permit is issued under the bill may exceed the maximum gross
32 weight limitations set forth under Code section 321.463,
33 subsection 5, paragraphs "a" and "b", by not more than 10,000
34 pounds.

35 However, the bill allows a combination of vehicles for which

1 a permit is issued under the bill that is transporting raw
2 forest products to exceed the maximum gross weight limitations
3 by not more than 18,000 pounds if the combination of vehicles
4 has six or more axles and the gross weight on any one axle does
5 not exceed 18,000 pounds and the gross weight on any steering
6 axle does not exceed 13,000 pounds or the manufacturer's rated
7 capacity, whichever is greater, but not more than 18,000
8 pounds. The bill provides that any axle of a combination of
9 vehicles that does not impose on the highway at least 8 percent
10 of the gross weight of the combination of vehicles will not be
11 counted as an axle for the purposes of this provision.

12 The bill prohibits a vehicle or combination of vehicles for
13 which a permit is issued under the bill from traveling on any
14 portion of the interstate highway system.

15 The bill defines "raw forest products" to mean logs,
16 pilings, posts, poles, cordwood products, wood chips, sawdust,
17 pulpwood, intermediary lumber, fuel wood, and Christmas trees
18 not altered by a manufacturing process off the land, sawmill,
19 or factory from which the products were taken.

20 The bill provides that the annual permit fee is \$100 for
21 vehicles or combinations of vehicles with a maximum gross
22 weight of 90,000 pounds or less, and \$175 for combinations of
23 vehicles with a maximum gross weight of 98,000 pounds or less
24 but more than 90,000 pounds.