

Senate Study Bill 1045 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON KAPUCIAN)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act permitting the transportation of certain types of loads
2 by motor vehicles exceeding certain weight limitations.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.463, subsection 3, Code 2019, 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, and 321E.29A,
6 and divisible loads operating under the permit requirements of
7 section 321E.26, shall be allowed a maximum of twenty thousand
8 pounds per axle.

9 Sec. 2. Section 321E.7, subsection 1, paragraph e, Code
10 2019, is amended to read as follows:

11 e. Vehicles operating under a permit issued pursuant to
12 section 321E.8, 321E.9, or 321E.26 may have a gross
13 weight not to exceed forty-six thousand pounds on a single
14 tandem axle of the truck tractor and a gross weight not to
15 exceed forty-six thousand pounds on a single tandem axle of the
16 trailer or semitrailer if each axle of each tandem group has at
17 least four tires.

18 Sec. 3. Section 321E.9, Code 2019, is amended by adding the
19 following new subsection:

20 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. Containers for international shipment
21 shall be considered an indivisible load for purposes of
22 transportation under a permit issued pursuant to this section,
23 regardless of the container's contents, if all of the following
24 conditions are met:

25 a. The combination of vehicles transporting the container
26 under the permit does not exceed the maximum dimensions
27 specified in sections 321.454 through 321.457.

28 b. The container is sealed for international shipment and is
29 either in route for export to a foreign country or in route to
30 the container's destination from a foreign country.

31 c. Documentation, such as a bill of lading or another
32 similar document, is carried in the vehicle, in written
33 or electronic form, that ties the container being moved to
34 the container listed in the documentation using the unique
35 container number marked on the container. The documentation

1 shall clearly state the foreign country of origin or
2 destination, and shall be provided to a peace officer upon
3 request.

4 Sec. 4. Section 321E.14, subsection 1, Code 2019, is amended
5 by adding the following new paragraph:

6 NEW PARAGRAPH. *j.* One hundred seventy-five dollars for a
7 permit issued pursuant to section 321E.26.

8 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. **321E.26 Transportation of raw forest**
9 **products.**

10 1. A permit-issuing authority may issue annual permits
11 for the operation of a vehicle or combination of vehicles
12 transporting divisible loads of raw forest products from fields
13 to storage, processing, or other commercial facilities. The
14 combined gross weight or gross weight on any one axle or
15 group of axles on a vehicle or combination of vehicles issued
16 a permit under this section may exceed the maximum weights
17 specified in section 321.463, if all of the following apply:

18 *a.* The combined gross weight or gross weight of the vehicle
19 or combination of vehicles does not exceed one hundred thirty
20 thousand pounds.

21 *b.* The gross weight on any one axle does not exceed the
22 limitations specified in section 321E.7.

23 2. A vehicle or combination of vehicles for which a permit
24 is issued under this section shall not exceed the maximum
25 dimensions specified in sections 321.454 through 321.457.

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

29 4. Notwithstanding section 321E.3 or any other provision of
30 law to the contrary, a permit issued by the department pursuant
31 to this section is valid for operation on nonprimary highways
32 if the nonprimary highway is the shortest route between a
33 primary highway that is not part of the interstate highway
34 system and a field, storage facility, processing facility,
35 or other commercial facility that is the vehicle's origin or

1 destination, as applicable.

2 5. For the purposes of this section, "raw forest products"
3 means logs, pilings, posts, poles, cordwood products, wood
4 chips, sawdust, pulpwood, intermediary lumber, fuel wood,
5 mulch, tree bark, and Christmas trees not altered by a
6 manufacturing process off the land, sawmill, or factory from
7 which the products were taken.

8 EXPLANATION

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

11 RAW FOREST PRODUCTS. This bill allows the department of
12 transportation (DOT) and local authorities to issue annual
13 permits authorizing a vehicle or combination of vehicles to
14 transport divisible loads of raw forest products from fields
15 to storage, processing, or other commercial facilities. The
16 annual permit fee is \$175. A vehicle or combination of
17 vehicles for which a permit is issued under the bill may exceed
18 the maximum gross weight limitations set forth under Code
19 section 321.463 if the combined gross weight or gross weight of
20 the vehicle or combination of vehicles does not exceed 130,000
21 pounds and the gross weight on any one axle does not exceed the
22 limitations specified in Code section 321E.7. Code section
23 321E.7 limits the gross weight on any one axle to 20,000 pounds
24 and the gross weight on any one tandem axle having at least
25 four tires to 46,000 pounds. The bill prohibits a vehicle or
26 combination of vehicles issued such a permit from exceeding the
27 size limitations set forth in Code sections 321.454 through
28 321.457. The bill also prohibits a vehicle or combination
29 of vehicles for which a permit is issued under the bill from
30 traveling on any portion of the interstate highway system. The
31 bill provides that such a permit issued by the DOT is valid for
32 operation on nonprimary highways if the nonprimary highway is
33 the shortest route between a primary highway that is not part
34 of the interstate highway system and a field, storage facility,
35 processing facility, or other commercial facility that is the

1 vehicle's origin or destination, as applicable.

2 The bill defines "raw forest products" to mean logs,
3 pilings, posts, poles, cordwood products, wood chips, sawdust,
4 pulpwood, intermediary lumber, fuel wood, mulch, tree bark, and
5 Christmas trees not altered by a manufacturing process off the
6 land, sawmill, or factory from which the products were taken.

7 SHIPPING CONTAINERS. The bill provides that containers
8 for international shipment are considered an indivisible load
9 for purposes of transportation under a single-trip permit,
10 regardless of the container's contents, if the combination
11 of vehicles transporting the container under the permit
12 does not exceed the maximum dimensions specified in Code
13 sections 321.454 through 321.457; the container is sealed for
14 international shipment and is either in route for export to
15 a foreign country or in route to the container's destination
16 from a foreign country; and documentation, such as a bill of
17 lading or another similar document, is carried in the vehicle,
18 in written or electronic form, that ties the container being
19 moved to the container listed in the documentation using the
20 unique container number marked on the container. The bill
21 requires the documentation to clearly state the foreign country
22 of origin or destination, and to be provided to a peace officer
23 upon request.