

**Senate Study Bill 1217 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON ZUMBACH)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to weight limitations for certain implements of  
2 husbandry.

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

1 Section 1. Section 321.463, subsection 4, Code 2019, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. a. (1) ~~Self-propelled implements~~ Notwithstanding  
4 any provision of this section to the contrary, the weight  
5 on any one axle of a self-propelled implement of husbandry  
6 used exclusively for the application of organic or inorganic  
7 plant food materials, agricultural limestone, or agricultural  
8 chemicals, unless traveling under a permit issued pursuant to  
9 section 321E.8A, shall be operated in compliance with this  
10 section.

11 b. (1) ~~Notwithstanding any provision of this section to~~  
12 ~~the contrary, the weight on any one axle of~~ or an implement  
13 of husbandry that is a fence-line feeder, grain cart, or tank  
14 wagon, when operated on the highways of this state, shall not  
15 exceed twenty-four thousand pounds from February 1 through May  
16 31 or twenty-eight thousand pounds from June 1 through January  
17 31, provided, however, that the maximum gross vehicle weight of  
18 the ~~fence-line feeder, grain cart, or tank wagon~~ implement of  
19 husbandry shall not exceed ninety-six thousand pounds.

20 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the  
21 contrary, a tracked implement of husbandry operated on the  
22 highways of this state shall not have a maximum gross weight in  
23 excess of ninety-six thousand pounds.

24 (3) b. ~~A fence-line feeder, grain cart, tank wagon,~~  
25 ~~or tracked~~ An implement of husbandry shall comply with the  
26 other provisions of this section and chapter when operated  
27 over a bridge in this state. A local authority may issue a  
28 special permit, based on a statewide standard developed by the  
29 department, allowing the operation over a bridge within its  
30 jurisdiction of ~~a fence-line feeder, grain cart, tank wagon, or~~  
31 ~~tracked~~ an implement of husbandry with a weight in excess of  
32 the weights allowed under this chapter.

33 (4) c. For purposes of this paragraph "b":

34 (a) ~~"Highway"~~ subsection, "highway" does not include a  
35 bridge.

1 ~~(b) "Fence-line feeder, grain cart, or tank wagon" means all~~  
2 ~~of the following:~~

3 ~~(i) A fence-line feeder, grain cart, or tank wagon~~  
4 ~~manufactured on or after July 1, 2001.~~

5 ~~(ii) After July 1, 2005, any fence-line feeder, grain cart,~~  
6 ~~or tank wagon.~~

7 Sec. 2. Section 321E.7, subsection 4, Code 2019, is amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 4. Notwithstanding [subsections 1 and 2](#), a self-propelled  
10 implement of husbandry traveling under a permit issued pursuant  
11 to [section 321E.8A](#) may exceed the maximum axle loads prescribed  
12 under [section 321.463](#) only when operated on a noninterstate  
13 highway in a county covered under the permit, provided the  
14 weight on any one axle does not exceed twenty-five thousand  
15 pounds or the maximum load for any one axle set forth under  
16 section 321.463, subsection 4, for the particular day,  
17 whichever is greater, and provided the current and valid permit  
18 is carried in the vehicle. However, a vehicle traveling under  
19 a permit issued pursuant to [section 321E.8A](#) is not exempt from  
20 posted weight limitations on bridges.

21 EXPLANATION

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

24 Under current law, a self-propelled implement of husbandry  
25 used exclusively for the application of organic or inorganic  
26 plant food materials, agricultural limestone, or agricultural  
27 chemicals is required to operate in compliance with Code  
28 section 321.463 (maximum gross weight). However, if a  
29 self-propelled implement of husbandry is issued a permit for  
30 excessive size and weight pursuant to Code section 321E.8A, it  
31 may exceed the maximum axle loads prescribed under Code section  
32 321.463 provided the weight on any one axle does not exceed  
33 25,000 pounds. Without a permit for excessive size and weight,  
34 the weight on any one axle of a fence-line feeder, grain  
35 cart, or tank wagon may be up to 24,000 pounds from February

1 1 through May 31 or 28,000 pounds from June 1 through January  
2 31, provided the maximum gross weight of the vehicle does not  
3 exceed 96,000 pounds.

4 This bill applies the limitations set forth for a fence-line  
5 feeder, grain cart, or tank wagon to a self-propelled implement  
6 of husbandry used exclusively for the application of organic  
7 or inorganic plant food materials, agricultural limestone, or  
8 agricultural chemicals.

9 The bill strikes a provision that altered the definition of  
10 "fence-line feeder, grain cart, or tank wagon" prior to July  
11 1, 2005.

12 The bill provides that a self-propelled implement of  
13 husbandry that has been issued a permit for excessive size and  
14 weight may exceed the maximum axle loads prescribed under Code  
15 section 321.463 provided the weight on any one axle does not  
16 exceed 25,000 pounds or the maximum load for any one axle set  
17 forth under Code section 321.463(4) for the particular day,  
18 whichever is greater.

19 Under Code section 321.1, an "implement of husbandry"  
20 is a vehicle or special mobile equipment manufactured,  
21 designed, or reconstructed for agricultural purposes and,  
22 except for incidental uses, exclusively used in the conduct of  
23 agricultural operations. "Implements of husbandry" includes  
24 certain all-terrain vehicles, fence-line feeders, and vehicles  
25 used exclusively for the application of organic or inorganic  
26 plant food materials, organic agricultural limestone, or  
27 agricultural chemicals. To be considered an implement of  
28 husbandry, a self-propelled implement of husbandry must be  
29 operated at speeds of 35 miles per hour or less.