

**House Study Bill 134 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON YOUNG)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the maximum weight of vehicles powered  
2 primarily by natural gas or electric battery, and making  
3 penalties applicable.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 321.463, subsection 5, paragraph a, Code  
2 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,  
4 a motor vehicle equipped with an engine fueled primarily by  
5 natural gas or a motor vehicle powered primarily by means of  
6 electric battery power may exceed any applicable maximum gross  
7 weight limit under this chapter, up to a maximum gross weight of  
8 eighty-two thousand pounds, ~~by an amount equal to the difference~~  
9 ~~between the weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas~~  
10 ~~tank and fueling system installed in the vehicle and the weight~~  
11 ~~of a comparable diesel fuel tank and fueling system.~~

12 EXPLANATION

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

15 Current law limits the maximum gross weight of a vehicle based  
16 on the highway on which the vehicle is operated and the number  
17 of axles and the distance between the axles on the vehicle.  
18 Generally, the maximum gross weight of a vehicle, including  
19 combinations of vehicles, is 80,000 pounds when operated on a  
20 highway in Iowa. Certain exceptions exist including but not  
21 limited to specially permitted vehicles and vehicles with six or  
22 seven axles while operated on noninterstate highways.

23 Additionally, a motor vehicle equipped with an engine fueled  
24 primarily by natural gas may exceed the standard weight limit  
25 and is authorized to weigh up to 82,000 pounds, as long as  
26 the vehicle's excessive weight equals the difference between  
27 the weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas tank  
28 and fueling system installed in the vehicle and the weight of  
29 a comparable diesel fuel tank and fueling system. This bill  
30 strikes the requirement that the excessive weight be attributable  
31 to the power unit substitution and instead authorizes all such  
32 vehicles to weigh up to 82,000 pounds.

33 The bill likewise authorizes a motor vehicle primarily powered  
34 by means of electric battery power to exceed any applicable gross  
35 weight limit, up to 82,000 pounds.

H.F. \_\_\_\_\_

1 A vehicle that exceeds the allowable weight based on its  
2 number of axles and the distance between the axles is subject  
3 to a scheduled fine. The scheduled fine ranges from \$12 to  
4 \$2,200 plus 10 cents per pound in excess of 20,000 pounds over  
5 the limit.

unofficial