

1 AN ACT in relation to vehicles.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by
5 changing Section 15-111 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-111) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111)

7 Sec. 15-111. Wheel and axle loads and gross weights.

8 (a) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with
9 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon
10 the highways of this State when the gross weight on the road
11 surface through any single axle thereof exceeds 18,000
12 pounds, except when a different limit is established and
13 posted in accordance with Section 15-316 and except any
14 single axle of a 2 axle motor vehicle weighing 36,000 pounds
15 or less and not a part of a combination of vehicles, shall
16 not exceed 20,000 pounds. Provided, however, that any single
17 axle of a 2 axle motor vehicle equipped with a personnel lift
18 or digger derrick, weighing 36,000 pounds or less, owned and
19 operated by a public utility, shall not exceed 20,000 pounds.
20 No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with other
21 than pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load,
22 upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on the
23 road surface through any wheel thereof exceeds 800 pounds per
24 inch width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road
25 surface through any axle thereof exceeds 16,000 pounds. The
26 gross weight transmitted to the road surface through tandem
27 axles shall not exceed 32,000 pounds and no axle of the
28 series shall exceed the maximum weight permitted under this
29 Section for a single axle. Provided that on a 4 axle vehicle
30 or on a 5 or more axle combination of vehicles the weight on
31 a series of 3 axles whose centers are more than 96 inches

1 apart, measured between extreme axles in the series, shall
2 not exceed those allowed on 3 axles in the table contained in
3 subsection (f) of this Section and no axle or tandem axle of
4 the series shall exceed the maximum weight permitted under
5 this Section for a single or tandem axle. Provided also that
6 a 3 axle vehicle ~~or--3--axle--truck--mixer~~ registered as a
7 Special Hauling Vehicle, ~~used-exclusively-for-the-mixing-and~~
8 ~~transportation-of-concrete, specially-equipped--with--a--road~~
9 ~~surface--engaging--mixer---trailing---4th--axle,~~ manufactured
10 prior to or in the model year of 2004 and first registered in
11 Illinois prior to January 1, 2005, with a distance greater
12 than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches between any series
13 of 2 axles may transmit to the road surface a maximum weight
14 of 18,000 pounds on each of these axles with a gross weight
15 on these 2 axles not to exceed 36,000 pounds. Any such
16 vehicle manufactured in the model year of 2004 or thereafter
17 or first registered in Illinois after December 31, 2004 may
18 transmit to the road surface a maximum of 32,000 pounds
19 through these 2 axles and none of the axles shall exceed
20 18,000 pounds.

21 A 4 axle truck, registered as a special hauling vehicle,
22 specially equipped with a road surface engaging mixer
23 trailing 4th axle, used exclusively for the mixing and
24 transportation of concrete, manufactured before or in the
25 model year of 2004 and first registered in Illinois before
26 January 1, 2005, may transmit to the road surface the
27 following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any single axle;
28 34,000 pounds on a series of axles whose centers are more
29 than 40 inches and not more than 72 inches; and 36,000 pounds
30 on a series of axles whose centers are more than 72 inches
31 but not more than 96 inches. A vehicle of this type is not
32 subject to the bridge formula on any series of three axles,
33 but only if the gross weight of the vehicle does not exceed
34 63,000 pounds.

1 A truck, not in combination and specially equipped with a
 2 selfcompactor, or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off
 3 container, used exclusively for garbage or refuse operations,
 4 and a truck used exclusively for the collection of rendering
 5 materials may, however, when laden, transmit upon the road
 6 surface of any highway except when part of the National
 7 System of Interstate and Defense Highways, a gross weight
 8 upon a single axle not more than 22,000 pounds, and upon a
 9 tandem axle not more than 40,000 pounds. When unladen,
 10 however, those trucks shall comply with the axle limitations
 11 applicable to all other trucks.

12 A 2 axle truck specially equipped with a front loading
 13 compactor used exclusively for garbage, refuse, or recycling
 14 may transmit 20,000 pounds per axle provided that the gross
 15 weight of the vehicle does not exceed 40,000 pounds.

16 (b) The gross weight of vehicles and combination of
 17 vehicles including the weight of the vehicle or combination
 18 and its maximum load shall be subject to the foregoing
 19 limitations and further shall not exceed the following gross
 20 weights dependent upon the number of axles and distance
 21 between extreme axles of the vehicle or combination measured
 22 longitudinally to the nearest foot.

23 VEHICLES HAVING 2 AXLES 36,000 pounds

24 VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS

25 HAVING 3 AXLES

26	With Tandem		With or	
27	Axles		Without	
28			Tandem Axles	
29	Minimum		Minimum	
30	distance to	Maximum	distance to	Maximum
31	nearest foot	Gross	nearest foot	Gross
32	between	Weight	between	Weight
33	extreme axles	(pounds)	extreme axles	(pounds)

1	10 feet	41,000	16 feet	46,000
2	11	42,000	17	47,000
3	12	43,000	18	47,500
4	13	44,000	19	48,000
5	14	44,500	20	49,000
6	15	45,000	21 feet or more	50,000

VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS

HAVING 4 AXLES

9	Minimum		Minimum	
10	distance to	Maximum	distance to	Maximum
11	nearest foot	Gross	nearest foot	Gross
12	between	Weight	between	Weight
13	extreme axles	(pounds)	extreme axles	(pounds)
14	15 feet	50,000	26 feet	57,500
15	16	50,500	27	58,000
16	17	51,500	28	58,500
17	18	52,000	29	59,500
18	19	52,500	30	60,000
19	20	53,500	31	60,500
20	21	54,000	32	61,500
21	22	54,500	33	62,000
22	23	55,500	34	62,500
23	24	56,000	35	63,500
24	25	56,500	36 feet or more	64,000

25 In applying the above table to a vehicle having more than
 26 4 axles that is not in combination, only 4 axles shall be
 27 considered in determining the maximum gross weights.

COMBINATIONS HAVING 5 OR MORE AXLES

29	Minimum distance to	Maximum
30	nearest foot between	Gross Weight
31	extreme axles	(pounds)
32	42 feet or less	72,000
33	43	73,000
34	44 feet or more	73,280

1 VEHICLES OPERATING ON CRAWLER TYPE TRACKS 40,000 pounds

2 TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH SELFCOMPACTORS
3 OR ROLL-OFF HOISTS AND ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS FOR GARBAGE
4 OR REFUSE HAULS ONLY AND TRUCKS USED FOR
5 THE COLLECTION OF RENDERING MATERIALS
6 On Highway Not Part of National System
7 of Interstate and Defense Highways

8 with 2 axles 36,000 pounds

9 with 3 axles 54,000 pounds

10 TWO AXLE TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH
11 A FRONT LOADING COMPACTOR USED EXCLUSIVELY
12 FOR THE COLLECTION OF GARBAGE, REFUSE, OR RECYCLING

13 with 2 axles 40,000 pounds

14 (c) Cities having a population of more than 50,000 may
15 permit by ordinance axle loads on 2 axle motor vehicles 33
16 1/2% above those provided for herein, but the increase shall
17 not become effective until the city has officially notified
18 the Department of the passage of the ordinance and shall not
19 apply to those vehicles when outside of the limits of the
20 city, nor shall the gross weight of any 2 axle motor vehicle
21 operating over any street of the city exceed 40,000 pounds.

22 (d) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles
23 (including loads) operated by a public utility when
24 transporting equipment required for emergency repair of
25 public utility facilities or properties or water wells.

26 A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck and a
27 disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles, that
28 exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code, may be
29 operated on a public highway in this State provided that
30 neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being towed nor
31 the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight limitations
32 permitted under this Chapter. During the towing operation,
33 neither the tow truck nor the vehicle combination shall

1 exceed the following axle weight limitations:

- 2 A. 24,000 pounds - Single rear axle;
- 3 B. 44,000 pounds - Tandem rear axle;

4 Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of
5 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck
6 license plate must cover the operating empty weight of the
7 tow truck only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall
8 be covered by a valid license plate issued to the owner or
9 operator of the vehicle being towed and displayed on that
10 vehicle. If no valid plate issued to the owner or operator of
11 that vehicle is displayed on that vehicle, or the plate
12 displayed on that vehicle does not cover the weight of the
13 vehicle, the weight of the vehicle shall be covered by the
14 third tow truck plate issued to the owner or operator of the
15 tow truck and temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed.
16 In addition, the following conditions must be met:

- 17 (1) the towing vehicle must be:
 - 18 a. specifically designed as a tow truck having
 - 19 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000
 - 20 lbs. and equipped with air brakes provided that air
 - 21 brakes shall be required only if the towing vehicle
 - 22 is towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer
 - 23 combination that is equipped with airbrakes;
 - 24 b. equipped with flashing, rotating or
 - 25 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500
 - 26 feet in all directions; and
 - 27 c. capable of utilizing the lighting and
 - 28 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or
 - 29 combination of vehicles.

30 (2) The towing of the vehicles on the highways of
31 this State shall not exceed 20 miles from the initial
32 point of wreck or disablement. Any additional movement of
33 the vehicles shall only occur upon issuance of
34 authorization for that movement under the provisions of

1 Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

2 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe
3 additional requirements. However, nothing in this Code shall
4 prohibit a tow truck under instructions of a police officer
5 from legally clearing a disabled vehicle, that may be in
6 violation of weight limitations of this Chapter, from the
7 roadway to the berm or shoulder of the highway.

8 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight
9 rating, or GVWR, shall mean the value specified by the
10 manufacturer as the loaded weight of the tow truck.

11 (e) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with
12 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon
13 the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of
14 any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301
15 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

16 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Code,
17 except for those provisions of subsection (d) of this Section
18 relating to emergency operations of public utilities and tow
19 trucks while actually engaged in the towing of a disabled
20 vehicle, and those vehicles for which the Department issues
21 overweight permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this
22 Code, the weight limitations contained in this subsection
23 shall apply to the National System of Interstate and Defense
24 Highways and other highways in the system of State highways
25 that have been designated by the Department as Class I, II,
26 or III. No vehicle shall be operated on the highways with a
27 weight in excess of 20,000 pounds carried on any one axle or
28 with a tandem axle weight in excess of 34,000 pounds, or a
29 gross weight in excess of 80,000 pounds for vehicle
30 combinations of 5 axles or more, or a gross weight on a group
31 of 2 or more consecutive axles in excess of that weight
32 produced by the application of the following formula:

33
$$W = 500 \text{ times the sum of } (LN \text{ divided by } N-1) + 12N + 36$$

34 Where "W" equals overall gross weight on any group of 2 or

1 more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds; "L" equals
 2 the distance measured to the nearest foot between extremes of
 3 any group of 2 or more consecutive axles; and "N" equals the
 4 number of axles in the group under consideration, except that
 5 2 consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of
 6 34,000 pounds each, provided the overall distance between the
 7 first and last axles of the consecutive sets of tandem axles
 8 is 36 feet or more. Provided also that a 3-axle vehicle
 9 registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle manufactured prior to
 10 or in the model year of 2004, and first registered in
 11 Illinois prior to January 1, 2005, with a distance greater
 12 than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches between the 2 rear
 13 axles may transmit to the road surface a maximum weight of
 14 18,000 pounds on each of the 2 rear axles with a gross weight
 15 on these 2 axles not to exceed 36,000 pounds. Any vehicle
 16 registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle manufactured prior to
 17 or in the model year of 2004 or thereafter or first
 18 registered in Illinois after December 31, 2004, may transmit
 19 to the road surface a maximum of 34,000 pounds through the 2
 20 rear axles and neither of the rear axles shall exceed 20,000
 21 pounds.

22 The above formula when expressed in tabular form results
 23 in allowable loads as follows:

24	Distance measured					
25	to the nearest					
26	foot between the					
27	extremes of any		Maximum load in pounds			
28	group of 2 or		carried on any group of			
29	more consecutive		2 or more consecutive axles			
30	axles					
31	feet	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
32	4	34,000				
33	5	34,000				
34	6	34,000				

1	7	34,000				
2	8	38,000*	42,000			
3	9	39,000	42,500			
4	10	40,000	43,500			
5	11		44,000			
6	12		45,000	50,000		
7	13		45,500	50,500		
8	14		46,500	51,500		
9	15		47,000	52,000		
10	16		48,000	52,500	58,000	
11	17		48,500	53,500	58,500	
12	18		49,500	54,000	59,000	
13	19		50,000	54,500	60,000	
14	20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000
15	21		51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
16	22		52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
17	23		53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
18	24		54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
19	25		54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
20	26		55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
21	27		56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
22	28		57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
23	29		57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500
24	30		58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000
25	31		59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500
26	32		60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000
27	33			64,000	68,500	74,000
28	34			64,500	69,000	74,500
29	35			65,500	70,000	75,000
30	36			66,000	70,500	75,500
31	37			66,500	71,000	76,000
32	38			67,500	72,000	77,000
33	39			68,000	72,500	77,500
34	40			68,500	73,000	78,000

1	41	69,500	73,500	78,500
2	42	70,000	74,000	79,000
3	43	70,500	75,000	80,000
4	44	71,500	75,500	
5	45	72,000	76,000	
6	46	72,500	76,500	
7	47	73,500	77,500	
8	48	74,000	78,000	
9	49	74,500	78,500	
10	50	75,500	79,000	
11	51	76,000	80,000	
12	52	76,500		
13	53	77,500		
14	54	78,000		
15	55	78,500		
16	56	79,500		
17	57	80,000		

18 *If the distance between 2 axles is 96 inches or less, the 2
19 axles are tandem axles and the maximum load permitted is
20 34,000 pounds, notwithstanding the higher limit resulting
21 from the application of the formula.

22 In applying the above formula to a vehicle having more
23 than 4 axles that is not a combination, only 4 axles shall be
24 considered in determining the maximum gross weight, and for a
25 combination of vehicles having more than 6 axles, only 6
26 axles shall be considered in determining the maximum gross
27 weight.

28 Notwithstanding the above table, 2 consecutive sets of
29 tandem axles may carry a gross weight of 34,000 pounds each
30 if the overall distance between the first and last axles of
31 the consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more.

32 Local authorities and road district highway
33 commissioners, with respect to streets and highways under
34 their jurisdiction, without additional fees, may also by

1 ordinance or resolution allow the weight limitations of this
2 subsection, provided the maximum gross weight on any one axle
3 shall not exceed 20,000 pounds and the maximum gross weight
4 on any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on
5 designated highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving
6 notice are erected upon the street or highway or portion of
7 any street or highway affected by the ordinance or
8 resolution.

9 Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special Hauling
10 Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured prior to or
11 in the model year of 2004, and first registered in Illinois
12 prior to January 1, 2005, having 5 axles with a distance of
13 42 feet or less between extreme axles shall be limited to the
14 weights prescribed in subsections (a) and (b) of this Section
15 and not subject to the bridge formula on the National System
16 of Interstate and Defense Highways and other highways in the
17 system of State highways designated by the Department. For
18 all those combinations of vehicles, that include a
19 semitrailer manufactured after the effective date of this
20 amendatory Act of 1986, the overall distance between the
21 first and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems must be 18 feet
22 6 inches or more. All combinations of vehicles registered as
23 Special Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer
24 manufactured prior to or in the model year of 2004 or
25 thereafter or first registered in Illinois after December 31,
26 2004, or that has had its cargo container replaced in its
27 entirety after December 31, 2004, are limited to the gross
28 weight allowed by the above formula.

29 A truck not in combination, equipped with a self
30 compactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off
31 container, used exclusively for garbage or refuse operations,
32 shall be allowed the weights as prescribed in subsections (a)
33 and (b) of this Section and not subject to the bridge
34 formula, provided they are not operated on a highway that is

1 part of the Interstate and Defense Highway System.

2 A 4 axle truck, registered as a special hauling vehicle,
3 specially equipped with a road surface engaging mixer
4 trailing 4th axle, used exclusively for the mixing and
5 transportation of concrete, manufactured before or in the
6 model year of 2004 and first registered in Illinois before
7 January 1, 2005, may transmit to the road surface the
8 following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any single axle;
9 34,000 pounds on a series of axles whose centers are more
10 than 40 inches and not more than 72 inches; and 36,000 pounds
11 on a series of axles whose centers are more than 72 inches
12 but not more than 96 inches. A vehicle of this type is not
13 subject to the bridge formula on any series of three axles,
14 but only if the gross weight of the vehicle does not exceed
15 63,000 pounds.

16 Vehicles operating under this subsection shall have
17 access for a distance of one highway mile to or from a Class
18 I highway on any street or highway, unless there is a sign
19 prohibiting the access, or 5 highway miles to or from either
20 a Class I, II, or III highway on a street or highway included
21 in the system of State highways and upon any street or
22 highway designated by local authorities or road district
23 commissioners to points of loading and unloading and to
24 facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest.

25 Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act
26 relating to procedures for rulemaking shall not apply to the
27 designation of highways under this subsection.

28 (g) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of
29 vehicles over a bridge or other elevated structure
30 constituting part of a highway with a gross weight that is
31 greater than the maximum weight permitted by the Department,
32 when the structure is sign posted as provided in this
33 Section.

34 (h) The Department upon request from any local authority

1 shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an
2 investigation of any bridge or other elevated structure
3 constituting a part of a highway, and if it finds that the
4 structure cannot with safety to itself withstand the weight
5 of vehicles otherwise permissible under this Code the
6 Department shall determine and declare the maximum weight of
7 vehicles that the structures can withstand, and shall cause
8 or permit suitable signs stating maximum weight to be erected
9 and maintained before each end of the structure. No person
10 shall operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles over any
11 structure with a gross weight that is greater than the posted
12 maximum weight.

13 (i) Upon the trial of any person charged with a
14 violation of subsections (g) or (h) of this Section, proof of
15 the determination of the maximum allowable weight by the
16 Department and the existence of the signs, constitutes
17 conclusive evidence of the maximum weight that can be
18 maintained with safety to the bridge or structure.

19 (Source: P.A. 89-117, eff. 7-7-95; 89-433, eff. 12-15-95;
20 90-89, eff. 1-1-98; 90-330, eff. 8-8-97; 90-655, eff.
21 7-30-98.)