

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

[PERFECTED]

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2128

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4647H.02P

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal sections 304.170, 304.172, and 304.180, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof three new sections relating to motor vehicle restrictions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 304.170, 304.172, and 304.180, RSMo, are repealed and three new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 304.170, 304.172, and 304.180, to read as follows:

304.170. 1. No vehicle operated upon the highways of this state shall have a width, including load, in excess of one hundred two inches, except clearance lights, rearview mirrors or other accessories required by federal, state or city law or regulation. Provided however, a recreational vehicle as defined in section 700.010 may exceed the foregoing width limits if the appurtenances on such recreational vehicle extend no further than the rearview mirrors. Such mirrors may only extend the distance necessary to provide the required field of view before the appurtenances were attached.

2. No vehicle operated upon the interstate highway system or upon any route designated by the state highways and transportation commission shall have a height, including load, in excess of fourteen feet. On all other highways, no vehicle shall have a height, including load, in excess of thirteen and one-half feet, except that any vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting automobiles or other motor vehicles may have a height, including load, of not more than fourteen feet.

3. No single motor vehicle operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length, including load, in excess of forty-five feet, except as otherwise provided in this section.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

16 4. No bus, recreational motor vehicle or trackless trolley coach operated upon the
17 highways of this state shall have a length in excess of forty-five feet, except that such vehicles
18 may exceed the forty-five feet length when such excess length is caused by the projection of a
19 front safety bumper or a rear safety bumper or both. Such safety bumper shall not cause the
20 length of the bus or recreational motor vehicle to exceed the forty-five feet length limit by more
21 than one foot in the front and one foot in the rear. Notwithstanding any provision of this section
22 to the contrary, an articulated bus, comprised of two or more sections connected by a flexible
23 joint or other mechanism, may be up to sixty feet in length, not including safety bumpers which
24 may extend one foot in front and one foot in the rear, and not including bicycle storage racks
25 which may extend over the safety bumper by up to five feet when in the down position
26 transporting a bicycle. The term "safety bumper" means any device which may be fitted on an
27 existing bumper or which replaces the bumper and is so constructed, treated, or manufactured
28 that it absorbs energy upon impact.

29 5. No combination of truck-tractor and semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with
30 dromedary and semitrailer operated upon the highways of this state shall have a length, including
31 load, in excess of sixty feet; except that in order to comply with the provisions of P.L. 97-424
32 codified in Title 23 of the United States Code, 23 U.S.C. Section 101, et al., as amended, no
33 combination of truck-tractor and semitrailer or truck-tractor equipped with dromedary and
34 semitrailer operated upon the interstate highway system of this state shall have an overall length,
35 including load, in excess of the length of the truck-tractor plus the semitrailer or truck-tractor
36 equipped with dromedary and semitrailer. The length of such semitrailer shall not exceed
37 fifty-three feet.

38 6. In order to comply with the provisions of P.L. 97-424 codified in Title 23 of the
39 United States Code, 23 U.S.C. Section 101, et al., as amended, no combination of truck-tractor,
40 semitrailer and trailer operated upon the interstate highway system of this state shall have an
41 overall length, including load, in excess of the length of the truck-tractor plus the semitrailer and
42 trailer, neither of which semitrailer or trailer shall exceed twenty-eight feet in length, except that
43 any existing semitrailer or trailer up to twenty-eight and one-half feet in length actually and
44 lawfully operated on December 1, 1982, within a sixty-five foot overall length limit in any state,
45 may continue to be operated upon the interstate highways of this state. On those primary
46 highways not designated by the state highways and transportation commission as provided in
47 subsection 11 of this section, no combination of truck-tractor, semitrailer and trailer shall have
48 an overall length, including load, in excess of sixty-five feet; provided, however, the commission
49 may designate additional routes for such sixty-five foot combinations.

50 7. (1) Automobile transporters, boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter
51 combinations, and stinger-steered combination boat transporters having a length not in excess

52 of seventy-five feet may be operated on the interstate highways of this state and such other
53 highways as may be designated by the commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a
54 distance not to exceed ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. All length
55 provisions regarding automobile or boat transporters, truck-trailer boat transporter combinations
56 and stinger-steered combination boat transporters shall include a semitrailer length not to exceed
57 fifty-three feet and are exclusive of front and rear overhang, which shall be no greater than a
58 three-foot front overhang and no greater than a four-foot rear overhang.

59 (2) Stinger-steered combination automobile transporters having a length not in excess
60 of eighty feet may be operated on the interstate highways of this state and such other highways
61 as may be designated by the commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a distance not
62 to exceed ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. All length provisions regarding
63 stinger-steered automobile combination transporters are exclusive of front and rear overhang,
64 which shall be no greater than a four-foot front overhang and no greater than a six-foot rear
65 overhang.

66 (3) Automobile transporters may transport cargo or general freight on a backhaul, as long
67 as in compliance with weight limitations for a truck-tractor and semitrailer combination as
68 outlined in section 304.180.

69 8. Driveaway saddlemount combinations having a length not in excess of ninety-seven
70 feet may be operated on the interstate highways of this state and such other highways as may be
71 designated by the commission for the operation of such vehicles plus a distance not to exceed
72 ten miles from such interstate or designated highway. Saddlemount combinations must comply
73 with the safety requirements of Section 393.71 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations
74 and may contain no more than three saddlemounted vehicles and one fullmount.

75 9. No truck-tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination vehicles operated upon the
76 interstate and designated primary highway system of this state shall have a semitrailer length in
77 excess of twenty-eight feet or twenty-eight and one-half feet if the semitrailer was in actual and
78 lawful operation in any state on December 1, 1982, operating in a truck-tractor
79 semitrailer-semitrailer combination. The B-train assembly is excluded from the measurement
80 of semitrailer length when used between the first and second semitrailer of a truck-tractor
81 semitrailer-semitrailer combination, except that when there is no semitrailer mounted to the
82 B-train assembly, it shall be included in the length measurement of the semitrailer.

83 10. No towaway trailer transporter combination vehicles operated upon the interstate and
84 designated primary highway system of this state shall have an overall length of more than
85 eighty-two feet.

86 11. The commission is authorized to designate routes on the state highway system other
87 than the interstate system over which those combinations of vehicles of the lengths specified in

88 subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of this section may be operated. Combinations of vehicles
89 operated under the provisions of subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of this section may be operated
90 at a distance not to exceed ten miles from the interstate system and such routes as designated
91 under the provisions of this subsection.

92 12. Except as provided in subsections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of this section, no other
93 combination of vehicles operated upon the primary or interstate highways of this state plus a
94 distance of ten miles from a primary or interstate highway shall have an overall length, unladen
95 or with load, in excess of sixty-five feet or in excess of fifty-five feet on any other highway.

96 13. (1) Except as hereinafter provided, these restrictions shall not apply to:

97 (a) Agricultural implements operating occasionally on the highways for short distances
98 including tractor parades for fund-raising activities or special events, provided the tractors are
99 driven by licensed drivers during daylight hours only and with the approval of the superintendent
100 of the Missouri state highway patrol; ~~or to~~

101 (b) Self-propelled hay-hauling equipment or to implements of husbandry, or to the
102 movement of farm products as defined in section 400.9-102 or to vehicles temporarily
103 transporting agricultural implements or implements of husbandry or road-making machinery, or
104 road materials or towing for repair purposes vehicles that have become disabled upon the
105 highways; ~~or to~~

106 (c) **Vehicles towing trailers specifically designed to carry harvested cotton, either**
107 **as a single trailer or in tandem, with a total length, including the trailer or trailers, of not**
108 **more than ninety-three feet; such vehicles shall only be used to haul harvested cotton,**
109 **except when hauling hay within the state to areas affected by drought as determined by the**
110 **National Drought Mitigation Center; or**

111 (d) Implement dealers delivering or moving farm machinery for repairs on any state
112 highway other than the interstate system.

113 (2) Implements of husbandry and vehicles transporting such machinery or equipment and
114 the movement of farm products as defined in section 400.9-102 may be operated occasionally
115 for short distances on state highways when operated between the hours of sunrise and sunset by
116 a driver licensed as an operator or chauffeur.

117 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, agricultural machinery
118 and implements may be operated on state highways between the hours of sunset and sunrise for
119 agricultural purposes provided such vehicles are equipped with lighting meeting the requirements
120 of section 307.115.

121 14. As used in this chapter the term "implements of husbandry" means all self-propelled
122 machinery operated at speeds of less than thirty miles per hour, specifically designed for, or
123 especially adapted to be capable of, incidental over-the-road and primary offroad usage and used

124 exclusively for the application of commercial plant food materials or agricultural chemicals, and
125 not specifically designed or intended for transportation of such chemicals and materials.

126 15. Sludge disposal units may be operated on all state highways other than the interstate
127 system. Such units shall not exceed one hundred thirty-eight inches in width and may be
128 equipped with over-width tires. Such units shall observe all axle weight limits. The commission
129 shall issue special permits for the movement of such disposal units and may by such permits
130 restrict the movements to specified routes, days and hours.

304.172. The provisions of sections 304.170 to 304.240 relating to height, width,
2 ~~[weight,]~~ **and** length ~~[and load]~~ restrictions for motor vehicles shall not apply to any motor
3 vehicle and its attached apparatus which is designed for use and used by a fire department, fire
4 protection district or volunteer fire protection association or when being operated by a fire
5 apparatus manufacturer or sales organization for the purpose of sale, demonstration, exhibit, or
6 delivery to a fire department, fire protection district or volunteer fire protection association.

304.180. 1. No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be moved or operated on any
2 highway in this state having a greater weight than twenty thousand pounds on one axle, no
3 combination of vehicles operated by transporters of general freight over regular routes as defined
4 in section 390.020 shall be moved or operated on any highway of this state having a greater
5 weight than the vehicle manufacturer's rating on a steering axle with the maximum weight not
6 to exceed twelve thousand pounds on a steering axle, and no vehicle shall be moved or operated
7 on any state highway of this state having a greater weight than thirty-four thousand pounds on
8 any tandem axle; the term "tandem axle" shall mean a group of two or more axles, arranged one
9 behind another, the distance between the extremes of which is more than forty inches and not
10 more than ninety-six inches apart.

11 2. An "axle load" is defined as the total load transmitted to the road by all wheels whose
12 centers are included between two parallel transverse vertical planes forty inches apart, extending
13 across the full width of the vehicle.

14 3. Subject to the limit upon the weight imposed upon a highway of this state through any
15 one axle or on any tandem axle, the total gross weight with load imposed by any group of two
16 or more consecutive axles of any vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed the
17 maximum load in pounds as set forth in the following table:

18

19 Distance in feet between the extremes of any group of two or more consecutive axles, measured
20 to the nearest foot, except where indicated otherwise

21 Maximum load in pounds

22 feet	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
23 4	34,000				

24	5	34,000				
25	6	34,000				
26	7	34,000				
27	8	34,000	34,000			
28	More than 8	38,000	42,000			
29	9	39,000	42,500			
30	10	40,000	43,500			
31	11	40,000	44,000			
32	12	40,000	45,000	50,000		
33	13	40,000	45,500	50,500		
34	14	40,000	46,500	51,500		
35	15	40,000	47,000	52,000		
36	16	40,000	48,000	52,500	58,000	
37	17	40,000	48,500	53,500	58,500	
38	18	40,000	49,500	54,000	59,000	
39	19	40,000	50,000	54,500	60,000	
40	20	40,000	51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000
41	21	40,000	51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
42	22	40,000	52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
43	23	40,000	53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
44	24	40,000	54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
45	25	40,000	54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
46	26	40,000	55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
47	27	40,000	56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
48	28	40,000	57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
49	29	40,000	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500
50	30	40,000	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000
51	31	40,000	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500
52	32	40,000	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000
53	33	40,000	60,000	64,000	68,500	74,000
54	34	40,000	60,000	64,500	69,000	74,500
55	35	40,000	60,000	65,500	70,000	75,000
56	36		60,000	66,000	70,500	75,500
57	37		60,000	66,500	71,000	76,000
58	38		60,000	67,500	72,000	77,000
59	39		60,000	68,000	72,500	77,500

60	40	60,000	68,500	73,000	78,000
61	41	60,000	69,500	73,500	78,500
62	42	60,000	70,000	74,000	79,000
63	43	60,000	70,500	75,000	80,000
64	44	60,000	71,500	75,500	80,000
65	45	60,000	72,000	76,000	80,000
66	46	60,000	72,500	76,500	80,000
67	47	60,000	73,500	77,500	80,000
68	48	60,000	74,000	78,000	80,000
69	49	60,000	74,500	78,500	80,000
70	50	60,000	75,500	79,000	80,000
71	51	60,000	76,000	80,000	80,000
72	52	60,000	76,500	80,000	80,000
73	53	60,000	77,500	80,000	80,000
74	54	60,000	78,000	80,000	80,000
75	55	60,000	78,500	80,000	80,000
76	56	60,000	79,500	80,000	80,000
77	57	60,000	80,000	80,000	80,000

78

79 Notwithstanding the above table, two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load
80 of thirty-four thousand pounds each if the overall distance between the first and last axles of such
81 consecutive sets of tandem axles is thirty-six feet or more.

82 4. Whenever the state highways and transportation commission finds that any state
83 highway bridge in the state is in such a condition that use of such bridge by vehicles of the
84 weights specified in subsection 3 of this section will endanger the bridge, or the users of the
85 bridge, the commission may establish maximum weight limits and speed limits for vehicles using
86 such bridge. The governing body of any city or county may grant authority by act or ordinance
87 to the commission to enact the limitations established in this section on those roadways within
88 the purview of such city or county. Notice of the weight limits and speed limits established by
89 the commission shall be given by posting signs at a conspicuous place at each end of any such
90 bridge.

91 5. Nothing in this section shall be construed as permitting lawful axle loads, tandem axle
92 loads or gross loads in excess of those permitted under the provisions of P.L. 97-424 codified
93 in Title 23 of the United States Code (23 U.S.C. Section 101, et al.), as amended.

94 6. Notwithstanding the weight limitations contained in this section, any vehicle or
95 combination of vehicles operating on highways other than the interstate highway system may

96 exceed single axle, tandem axle and gross weight limitations in an amount not to exceed two
97 thousand pounds. However, total gross weight shall not exceed eighty thousand pounds, except
98 as provided in subsections 9, 10, 12, and 13 of this section.

99 7. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, the commission shall
100 issue a single-use special permit, or upon request of the owner of the truck or equipment shall
101 issue an annual permit, for the transporting of any crane or concrete pump truck or well-drillers'
102 equipment. The commission shall set fees for the issuance of permits and parameters for the
103 transport of cranes pursuant to this subsection. Notwithstanding the provisions of section
104 301.133, cranes, concrete pump trucks, or well-drillers' equipment may be operated on state-
105 maintained roads and highways at any time on any day.

106 8. Notwithstanding the provision of this section to the contrary, the maximum gross
107 vehicle limit and axle weight limit for any vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with an
108 idle reduction technology may be increased by a quantity necessary to compensate for the
109 additional weight of the idle reduction system as provided for in 23 U.S.C. Section 127, as
110 amended. In no case shall the additional weight increase allowed by this subsection be greater
111 than five hundred fifty pounds. Upon request by an appropriate law enforcement officer, the
112 vehicle operator shall provide proof that the idle reduction technology is fully functional at all
113 times and that the gross weight increase is not used for any purpose other than for the use of idle
114 reduction technology.

115 9. Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other law to the contrary, the
116 total gross weight of any vehicle or combination of vehicles hauling milk, from a farm to a
117 processing facility or livestock may be as much as, but shall not exceed, eighty-five thousand
118 five hundred pounds while operating on highways other than the interstate highway system. The
119 provisions of this subsection shall not apply to vehicles operated and operating on the Dwight
120 D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

121 10. Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other law to the contrary, any
122 vehicle or combination of vehicles hauling grain or grain coproducts during times of harvest may
123 be as much as, but not exceeding, ten percent over the maximum weight limitation allowable
124 under subsection 3 of this section while operating on highways other than the interstate highway
125 system. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to vehicles operated and operating on
126 the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

127 11. Notwithstanding any provision of this section or any other law to the contrary, the
128 commission shall issue emergency utility response permits for the transporting of utility wires
129 or cables, poles, and equipment needed for repair work immediately following a disaster where
130 utility service has been disrupted. Under exigent circumstances, verbal approval of such
131 operation may be made either by the department of transportation motor carrier compliance

132 supervisor or other designated motor carrier services representative. Utility vehicles and
133 equipment used to assist utility companies granted special permits under this subsection may be
134 operated and transported on state-maintained roads and highways at any time on any day. The
135 commission shall promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of this
136 section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created
137 under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and
138 is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section
139 and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
140 pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule
141 are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule
142 proposed or adopted after August 28, 2014, shall be invalid and void.

143 12. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, emergency vehicles
144 designed to be used under emergency conditions to transport personnel and equipment and to
145 **support the suppression of fires and** mitigate hazardous situations may have a maximum gross
146 vehicle weight of eighty-six thousand pounds inclusive of twenty-four thousand pounds on a
147 single steering axle; thirty-three thousand five hundred pounds on a single drive axle; sixty-two
148 thousand pounds on a tandem axle; or fifty-two thousand pounds on a tandem rear-drive steer
149 axle; **except that, such emergency vehicles shall only operate on the Dwight D. Eisenhower**
150 **National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.**

151 13. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, a vehicle operated by
152 an engine fueled primarily by natural gas may operate upon the public highways of this state in
153 excess of the vehicle weight limits set forth in this section by an amount that is equal to the
154 difference between the weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas tank and fueling
155 system carried by that vehicle and the weight of a comparable diesel tank and fueling system.
156 In no event shall the maximum gross vehicle weight of the vehicle operating with a natural gas
157 engine exceed eighty-two thousand pounds.

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