
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 497 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY SMITH, ARMANINI, ZIMMERMAN, ROWE AND JAMES,
MARCH 17, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, MARCH 17, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in size, weight and load, further providing for
3 safety requirements for towed vehicles.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 4905(d) of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

8 § 4905. Safety requirements for towed vehicles.

9 * * *

10 (d) Safety chains and cables.--Whenever two vehicles are
11 connected by a ball-and-socket type hitch, or pintle hook
12 without a locking device, they shall also be connected by two
13 safety chains or safety cables of equal length, each safety
14 chain or safety cable having an ultimate strength at least equal
15 to the gross weight of the towed vehicles. The safety chains or
16 safety cables shall be crossed and connected to the towed and
17 towing vehicle and to the tow bar so as to prevent the tow bar
18 from dropping to the ground in the event the tow bar fails or

1 becomes disconnected. The safety chains or safety cables shall
2 have no more slack than is necessary to permit proper turning.

3 * * *

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.