
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 968 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY TOMLINSON, McILHINNEY, RAFFERTY, MCGARRIGLE AND
MARTIN, DECEMBER 1, 2017

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, DECEMBER 1, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in size, weight and load, further providing for
3 limits on number of towed vehicles, for length of vehicles
4 and for application to tow trucks.

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

7 Section 1. Section 4904(c)(2) of Title 75 of the
8 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 4904. Limits on number of towed vehicles.

10 * * *

11 (c) Towing vehicles requiring service.--

12 * * *

13 (2) A combination [requiring emergency service may be
14 towed to a nearby garage or other place of safety.]

15 consisting of any tow truck towing a disabled motor vehicle
16 or a combination of a truck, a truck tractor or not more than
17 two trailers may be towed as provided in section 4949
18 (relating to application to tow trucks).

19 * * *

1 Section 2. Section 4923(b.1) (7) of Title 75, amended July
2 20, 2017 (P.L.342, No.31), is amended to read:

3 § 4923. Length of vehicles.

4 * * *

5 (b.1) Combinations.--

6 * * *

7 (7) A combination consisting of any tow truck towing a
8 disabled motor vehicle [to a place of repairs or other place
9 of safety.] or a combination of a truck, a truck tractor or
10 not more than two trailers may be towed as provided in
11 section 4949 (relating to application to tow trucks).

12 * * *

13 Section 3. Section 4949 of Title 75 is amended to read:

14 § 4949. Application to tow trucks.

15 [The weight restrictions set forth in this subchapter do not
16 apply to a combination consisting of any tow truck towing a
17 disabled motor vehicle to a place of repairs or other place of
18 safety as long as the overweight combination travels directly to
19 the first available such location and the movement is performed
20 at the direction of authorized emergency personnel or a
21 qualified Commonwealth employee.]

22 (a) Towing length restrictions.--A combination consisting of
23 any tow truck towing a combination of a truck, a truck tractor
24 or not more than two trailers shall not exceed 150 feet when
25 traveling in combination.

26 (b) Towing weight restrictions.--The weight restrictions
27 provided in this subchapter do not apply to a combination
28 consisting of any tow truck towing a disabled motor vehicle or a
29 combination consisting of any tow truck towing a combination of
30 a truck, a truck tractor or not more than two trailers to a

1 place of repairs as long as:

2 (1) The oversized combination travels on the same route
3 as prescribed by the permit.

4 (2) The tow truck operator obeys all applicable road and
5 bridge weight restrictions.

6 (c) Towing distance restrictions.--A combination consisting
7 of any tow truck towing a combination of a truck, a truck
8 tractor or not more than two trailers shall only tow a disabled
9 motor vehicle to an appropriate place of repairs that is within
10 75 miles of the point of disability.

11 (d) Failure to meet restrictions.--At any time, if a tow
12 truck operator cannot meet all the requirements of this section,
13 the tow truck operator shall report the incident to authorized
14 emergency personnel or a qualified employee of the Commonwealth.
15 An emergency plan to remove the disabled motor vehicle shall be
16 developed and approved by the department within 24 hours of the
17 initial report.

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