

# SB0051



## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2017 and 2018

SB0051

Introduced 1/11/2017, by Sen. Tim Bivins

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/15-107

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-107

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that the maximum length of a truck tractor in combination with a semitrailer may not exceed 65 feet (rather than 55 feet) overall dimension on all non-State highways. Removes the requirement that truck tractor-semitrailer combinations must have no more than a maximum 55 feet overall wheel base on Class III roadways and other non-designated State highways. Provides that the distance between the kingpin and the axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches, unless the trailer or semitrailer is used for the transport of livestock.

LRB100 00048 AXK 10049 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

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 changing  
5 Section 15-107 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-107) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-107)

7 Sec. 15-107. Length of vehicles.

8 (a) The maximum length of a single vehicle on any highway  
9 of this State may not exceed 42 feet except the following:

10 (1) Semitrailers.

11 (2) Charter or regulated route buses may be up to 45  
12 feet in length, not including energy absorbing bumpers.

13 (a-1) A motor home as defined in Section 1-145.01 may be up  
14 to 45 feet in length, not including energy absorbing bumpers.  
15 The length limitations described in this subsection (a-1) shall  
16 be exclusive of energy-absorbing bumpers and rear view mirrors.

17 (b) On all non-State highways, the maximum length of  
18 vehicles in combinations is as follows:

19 (1) A truck tractor in combination with a semitrailer  
20 may not exceed 65 ~~55~~ feet overall dimension.

21 (2) A truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer or truck  
22 tractor semitrailer-semitrailer may not exceed 60 feet  
23 overall dimension.

1           (3) Combinations specially designed to transport motor  
2 vehicles or boats may not exceed 60 feet overall dimension.

3           (4) The distance between the kingpin and the center  
4 axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination  
5 with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches. The  
6 limit contained in this paragraph (4) shall not apply to  
7 trailers or semitrailers used for the transport of  
8 livestock as defined by Section 18b-101.

9           Vehicles operating during daylight hours when transporting  
10 poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a structural  
11 nature that cannot readily be dismembered are exempt from  
12 length limitations, provided that no object may exceed 80 feet  
13 in length and the overall dimension of the vehicle including  
14 the load may not exceed 100 feet. This exemption does not apply  
15 to operation on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Legal  
16 holidays referred to in this Section are the days on which the  
17 following traditional holidays are celebrated: New Year's Day;  
18 Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day;  
19 and Christmas Day.

20           Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility while en  
21 route to make emergency repairs to public service facilities or  
22 properties are exempt from length limitations, provided that  
23 during night operations every vehicle and its load must be  
24 equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both  
25 sides and marker lamps on the extreme ends of any projecting  
26 load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

1           A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or  
2 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph (6)  
3 of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length  
4 limitations.

5           All other combinations not listed in this subsection (b)  
6 may not exceed 60 feet overall dimension.

7           (c) Except as provided in subsections (c-1) and (c-2),  
8 combinations of vehicles may not exceed a total of 2 vehicles  
9 except the following:

10           (1) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one trailer.

11           (2) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one converter  
12 dolly or one semitrailer.

13           (3) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one vehicle  
14 that is defined in Chapter 1 as special mobile equipment,  
15 provided the overall dimension does not exceed 60 feet.

16           (4) A truck in transit may draw 3 trucks in transit  
17 coupled together by the triple saddlemount method.

18           (5) Recreational vehicles consisting of 3 vehicles,  
19 provided the following:

20           (A) The total overall dimension does not exceed 60  
21 feet.

22           (B) The towing vehicle is a properly registered  
23 vehicle capable of towing another vehicle using a  
24 fifth-wheel type assembly.

25           (C) The second vehicle in the combination of  
26 vehicles is a recreational vehicle that is towed by a

1 fifth-wheel assembly. This vehicle must be properly  
2 registered and must be equipped with brakes,  
3 regardless of weight.

4 (D) The third vehicle must be the lightest of the 3  
5 vehicles and be a trailer or semitrailer designed or  
6 used for transporting a boat, all-terrain vehicle,  
7 personal watercraft, or motorcycle.

8 (E) The towed vehicles may be only for the use of  
9 the operator of the towing vehicle.

10 (F) All vehicles must be properly equipped with  
11 operating brakes and safety equipment required by this  
12 Code, except the additional brake requirement in  
13 subdivision (C) of this subparagraph (5).

14 (6) A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle  
15 or combination of disabled vehicles, provided the towing  
16 vehicle:

17 (A) Is specifically designed as a tow truck having  
18 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds  
19 and equipped with air brakes, provided that air brakes  
20 are required only if the towing vehicle is towing a  
21 vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer combination  
22 that is equipped with air brakes. For the purpose of  
23 this subsection, gross vehicle weight rating, or GVWR,  
24 means the value specified by the manufacturer as the  
25 loaded weight of the tow truck.

26 (B) Is equipped with flashing, rotating, or

1           oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet  
2           in all directions.

3           (C) Is capable of utilizing the lighting and  
4           braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination  
5           of vehicles.

6           (D) Does not engage a tow exceeding 50 highway  
7           miles from the initial point of wreck or disablement to  
8           a place of repair. Any additional movement of the  
9           vehicles may occur only upon issuance of authorization  
10          for that movement under the provisions of Sections  
11          15-301 through 15-319 of this Code.

12          The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
13          additional requirements regarding length limitations for a  
14          tow truck towing another vehicle.

15          For purposes of this Section, a tow-dolly that merely  
16          serves as substitute wheels for another legally licensed  
17          vehicle is considered part of the licensed vehicle and not  
18          a separate vehicle.

19          (7) Commercial vehicles consisting of 3 vehicles,  
20          provided the following:

21                 (A) The total overall dimension does not exceed 65  
22                 feet.

23                 (B) The towing vehicle is a properly registered  
24                 vehicle capable of towing another vehicle using a  
25                 fifth-wheel type assembly or a goose-neck hitch ball.

26                 (C) The third vehicle must be the lightest of the 3

1 vehicles and be a trailer or semitrailer.

2 (D) All vehicles must be properly equipped with  
3 operating brakes and safety equipment required by this  
4 Code.

5 (E) The combination of vehicles must be operated by  
6 a person who holds a commercial driver's license (CDL).

7 (F) The combination of vehicles must be en route to  
8 a location where new or used trailers are sold by an  
9 Illinois or out-of-state licensed new or used trailer  
10 dealer.

11 (c-1) A combination of 3 vehicles is allowed access to any  
12 State designated highway if:

13 (1) the length of neither towed vehicle exceeds 28.5  
14 feet;

15 (2) the overall wheel base of the combination of  
16 vehicles does not exceed 62 feet; and

17 (3) the combination of vehicles is en route to a  
18 location where new or used trailers are sold by an Illinois  
19 or out-of-state licensed new or used trailer dealer.

20 (c-2) A combination of 3 vehicles is allowed access from  
21 any State designated highway onto any county, township, or  
22 municipal highway for a distance of 5 highway miles for the  
23 purpose of delivery or collection of one or both of the towed  
24 vehicles if:

25 (1) the length of neither towed vehicle exceeds 28.5  
26 feet;

1           (2) the combination of vehicles does not exceed 40,000  
2 pounds in gross weight and 8 feet 6 inches in width;

3           (3) there is no sign prohibiting that access;

4           (4) the route is not being used as a thoroughfare  
5 between State designated highways; and

6           (5) the combination of vehicles is en route to a  
7 location where new or used trailers are sold by an Illinois  
8 or out-of-state licensed new or used trailer dealer.

9           (d) On Class I highways there are no overall length  
10 limitations on motor vehicles operating in combinations  
11 provided:

12           (1) The length of a semitrailer, unladen or with load,  
13 in combination with a truck tractor may not exceed 53 feet.

14           (2) The distance between the kingpin and the center of  
15 the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in  
16 combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 45 feet 6  
17 inches. The limit contained in this paragraph (2) shall not  
18 apply to trailers or semi-trailers used for the transport  
19 of livestock as defined by Section 18b-101.

20           (3) The length of a semitrailer or trailer, unladen or  
21 with load, operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer  
22 or truck tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination, may  
23 not exceed 28 feet 6 inches.

24           (4) Maxi-cube combinations, as defined in Chapter 1,  
25 may not exceed 65 feet overall dimension.

26           (5) Combinations of vehicles specifically designed to



1 transport motor vehicles or boats may not exceed 65 feet  
2 overall dimension. The length limitation is inclusive of  
3 front and rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the  
4 transported vehicles, as provided in paragraph (i) of this  
5 Section.

6 (6) Stinger steered semitrailer vehicles specifically  
7 designed to transport motor vehicles or boats and  
8 automobile transporters, as defined in Chapter 1, may not  
9 exceed 80 feet overall dimension. The length limitation is  
10 inclusive of front and rear bumpers but exclusive of the  
11 overhang of the transported vehicles, as provided in  
12 paragraph (i) of this Section.

13 (7) A truck in transit transporting 3 trucks coupled  
14 together by the triple saddlemount method may not exceed 97  
15 feet overall dimension.

16 (8) A towaway trailer transporter combination may not  
17 exceed 82 feet overall dimension.

18 Vehicles operating during daylight hours when transporting  
19 poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a structural  
20 nature that cannot readily be dismembered are exempt from  
21 length limitations, provided that no object may exceed 80 feet  
22 in length and the overall dimension of the vehicle including  
23 the load may not exceed 100 feet. This exemption does not apply  
24 to operation on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Legal  
25 holidays referred to in this Section are the days on which the  
26 following traditional holidays are celebrated: New Year's Day;

1 Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day;  
2 and Christmas Day.

3 Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility while en  
4 route to make emergency repairs to public service facilities or  
5 properties are exempt from length limitations, provided that  
6 during night operations every vehicle and its load must be  
7 equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both  
8 sides and marker lamps on the extreme ends of any projecting  
9 load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

10 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or  
11 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph (6)  
12 of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length  
13 limitations.

14 The length limitations described in this paragraph (d)  
15 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,  
16 such as bumpers, refrigeration units or air compressors and  
17 other devices, that the Department may interpret as necessary  
18 for safe and efficient operation; except that no device  
19 excluded under this paragraph shall have by its design or use  
20 the capability to carry cargo.

21 Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act  
22 relating to procedures for rulemaking shall not apply to the  
23 designation of highways under this paragraph (d).

24 (e) On Class II highways there are no overall length  
25 limitations on motor vehicles operating in combinations,  
26 provided:

1           (1) The length of a semitrailer, unladen or with load,  
2           in combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 53 feet  
3           overall dimension.

4           (2) The distance between the kingpin and the center of  
5           the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in  
6           combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 45 feet 6  
7           inches. The limit contained in this paragraph (2) shall not  
8           apply to trailers or semi-trailers used for the transport  
9           of livestock as defined by Section 18b-101.

10          (3) A truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer or truck  
11          tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination may not exceed  
12          65 feet in dimension from front axle to rear axle.

13          (4) The length of a semitrailer or trailer, unladen or  
14          with load, operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer  
15          or truck tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination, may  
16          not exceed 28 feet 6 inches.

17          (5) Maxi-cube combinations, as defined in Chapter 1,  
18          may not exceed 65 feet overall dimension.

19          (6) A combination of vehicles, specifically designed  
20          to transport motor vehicles or boats, may not exceed 65  
21          feet overall dimension. The length limitation is inclusive  
22          of front and rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of  
23          the transported vehicles, as provided in paragraph (i) of  
24          this Section.

25          (7) Stinger steered semitrailer vehicles specifically  
26          designed to transport motor vehicles or boats, may not

1           exceed 80 feet overall dimension. The length limitation is  
2           inclusive of front and rear bumpers but exclusive of the  
3           overhang of the transported vehicles, as provided in  
4           paragraph (i) of this Section.

5           (8) A truck in transit transporting 3 trucks coupled  
6           together by the triple saddlemount method may not exceed 97  
7           feet overall dimension.

8           (9) A towaway trailer transporter combination may not  
9           exceed 82 feet overall dimension.

10          Vehicles operating during daylight hours when transporting  
11          poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a structural  
12          nature that cannot readily be dismembered are exempt from  
13          length limitations, provided that no object may exceed 80 feet  
14          in length and the overall dimension of the vehicle including  
15          the load may not exceed 100 feet. This exemption does not apply  
16          to operation on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Legal  
17          holidays referred to in this Section are the days on which the  
18          following traditional holidays are celebrated: New Year's Day;  
19          Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day;  
20          and Christmas Day.

21          Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility while en  
22          route to make emergency repairs to public service facilities or  
23          properties are exempt from length limitations, provided that  
24          during night operations every vehicle and its load must be  
25          equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both  
26          sides and marker lamps on the extreme ends of any projecting

1 load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

2 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or  
3 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph (6)  
4 of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length  
5 limitations.

6 Local authorities, with respect to streets and highways  
7 under their jurisdiction, may also by ordinance or resolution  
8 allow length limitations of this subsection (e).

9 The length limitations described in this paragraph (e)  
10 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,  
11 such as bumpers, refrigeration units or air compressors and  
12 other devices, that the Department may interpret as necessary  
13 for safe and efficient operation; except that no device  
14 excluded under this paragraph shall have by its design or use  
15 the capability to carry cargo.

16 Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act  
17 relating to procedures for rulemaking shall not apply to the  
18 designation of highways under this paragraph (e).

19 (e-1) Combinations of vehicles not exceeding 65 feet  
20 overall length are allowed access as follows:

21 (1) From any State designated highway onto any county,  
22 township, or municipal highway for a distance of 5 highway  
23 miles for the purpose of loading and unloading, provided:

24 (A) The vehicle does not exceed 80,000 pounds in  
25 gross weight and 8 feet 6 inches in width.

26 (B) There is no sign prohibiting that access.

1 (C) The route is not being used as a thoroughfare  
2 between State designated highways.

3 (2) From any State designated highway onto any county  
4 or township highway for a distance of 5 highway miles or  
5 onto any municipal highway for a distance of one highway  
6 mile for the purpose of food, fuel, repairs, and rest,  
7 provided:

8 (A) The vehicle does not exceed 80,000 pounds in  
9 gross weight and 8 feet 6 inches in width.

10 (B) There is no sign prohibiting that access.

11 (C) The route is not being used as a thoroughfare  
12 between State designated highways.

13 (e-2) Except as provided in subsection (e-3), combinations  
14 of vehicles over 65 feet in length, with no overall length  
15 limitation except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of  
16 this Section, are allowed access as follows:

17 (1) From a Class I highway onto any street or highway  
18 for a distance of one highway mile for the purpose of  
19 loading, unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and rest,  
20 provided there is no sign prohibiting that access.

21 (2) From a Class I or Class II highway onto any State  
22 highway or any locally designated highway for a distance of  
23 5 highway miles for the purpose of loading, unloading,  
24 food, fuel, repairs, and rest.

25 (e-3) Combinations of vehicles over 65 feet in length  
26 operated by household goods carriers or towaway trailer

1 transporter combinations, with no overall length limitations  
2 except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this Section,  
3 have unlimited access to points of loading, unloading, or  
4 delivery to or from a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer.

5 (f) On Class III and other non-designated State highways,  
6 the length limitations for vehicles in combination are as  
7 follows:

8 (1) Truck tractor-semitrailer combinations~~7~~ must  
9 comply with ~~either a maximum 55 feet overall wheel base or~~  
10 a maximum 65 feet extreme overall dimension.

11 (2) Semitrailers, unladen or with load, may not exceed  
12 53 feet overall dimension.

13 (3) No truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer or truck  
14 tractor semitrailer-semitrailer combination may exceed 60  
15 feet extreme overall dimension.

16 (4) The distance between the kingpin and the center  
17 axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination  
18 with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches. The  
19 limit contained in this paragraph (4) shall not apply to  
20 trailers or semi-trailers used for the transport of  
21 livestock as defined by Section 18b-101.

22 (g) Length limitations in the preceding subsections of this  
23 Section 15-107 do not apply to the following:

24 (1) Vehicles operated in the daytime, except on  
25 Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays, when transporting  
26 poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural

1 nature that cannot readily be dismembered, provided the  
2 overall length of vehicle and load may not exceed 100 feet  
3 and no object exceeding 80 feet in length may be  
4 transported unless a permit has been obtained as authorized  
5 in Section 15-301.

6 (2) Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility  
7 while en route to make emergency repairs to public service  
8 facilities or properties, but during night operation every  
9 vehicle and its load must be equipped with a sufficient  
10 number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps  
11 upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly  
12 mark the dimensions of the load.

13 (3) A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle  
14 or combination of disabled vehicles, provided the towing  
15 vehicle meets the following conditions:

16 (A) It is specifically designed as a tow truck  
17 having a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000  
18 pounds and equipped with air brakes, provided that air  
19 brakes are required only if the towing vehicle is  
20 towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer  
21 combination that is equipped with air brakes.

22 (B) It is equipped with flashing, rotating, or  
23 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet  
24 in all directions.

25 (C) It is capable of utilizing the lighting and  
26 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination



1 of vehicles.

2 (D) It does not engage in a tow exceeding 50 miles  
3 from the initial point of wreck or disablement.

4 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
5 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a tow  
6 truck towing another vehicle. The towing vehicle, however, may  
7 tow any disabled vehicle from the initial point of wreck or  
8 disablement to a point where repairs are actually to occur.  
9 This movement shall be valid only on State routes. The tower  
10 must abide by posted bridge weight limits.

11 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight  
12 rating, or GVWR, shall mean the value specified by the  
13 manufacturer as the loaded weight of the tow truck. Legal  
14 holidays referred to in this Section shall be specified as the  
15 day on which the following traditional holidays are celebrated:

16 New Year's Day;

17 Memorial Day;

18 Independence Day;

19 Labor Day;

20 Thanksgiving Day; and

21 Christmas Day.

22 (h) The load upon any vehicle operated alone, or the load  
23 upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not  
24 extend more than 3 feet beyond the front wheels of the vehicle  
25 or the front bumper of the vehicle if it is equipped with a  
26 front bumper. The provisions of this subsection (h) shall not

1 apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles specifically  
2 designed for the collection and transportation of waste,  
3 garbage, or recyclable materials during the vehicle's  
4 operation in the course of collecting garbage, waste, or  
5 recyclable materials if the vehicle is traveling at a speed not  
6 in excess of 15 miles per hour during the vehicle's operation  
7 and in the course of collecting garbage, waste, or recyclable  
8 materials. However, in no instance shall the load extend more  
9 than 7 feet beyond the front wheels of the vehicle or the front  
10 bumper of the vehicle if it is equipped with a front bumper.

11 (i) The load upon the front vehicle of an automobile  
12 transporter or a stinger-steered vehicle specifically designed  
13 to transport motor vehicles shall not extend more than 4 feet  
14 beyond the foremost part of the transporting vehicle and the  
15 load upon the rear transporting vehicle shall not extend more  
16 than 6 feet beyond the rear of the bed or body of the vehicle.  
17 This paragraph shall only be applicable upon highways  
18 designated in paragraphs (d) and (e) of this Section.

19 (j) Articulated vehicles comprised of 2 sections, neither  
20 of which exceeds a length of 42 feet, designed for the carrying  
21 of more than 10 persons, may be up to 60 feet in length, not  
22 including energy absorbing bumpers, provided that the vehicles  
23 are:

24 1. operated by or for any public body or motor carrier  
25 authorized by law to provide public transportation  
26 services; or

1           2. operated in local public transportation service by  
2           any other person and the municipality in which the service  
3           is to be provided approved the operation of the vehicle.

4           (j-1) (Blank).

5           (k) Any person who is convicted of violating this Section  
6           is subject to the penalty as provided in paragraph (b) of  
7           Section 15-113.

8           (l) (Blank).

9           (Source: P.A. 99-717, eff. 8-5-16.)