95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
State of Illinois
2007 and 2008
SB0514

Introduced 2/8/2007, by Sen. Terry Link

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

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625 ILCS 5/15-111 from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111
625 ILCS 5/15-301 from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-301
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#### Abstract

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that, during a towing operation, (i) no weight limit applies to a triple rear axle on a manufactured recovery unit and (ii) neither the towed vehicle nor the combination of vehicles (rather than neither the disabled vehicle nor the disabled combination of vehicles) may exceed the weight limitations imposed by the Code or by a permit issued by the Department of Transportation.


## A BILL FOR

AN ACT concerning transportation.

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

Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing Sections 15-111 and 15-301 as follows:
(625 ILCS 5/15-111) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111)
Sec. 15-111. Wheel and axle loads and gross weights.
(a) On non-designated highways, no vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with load, when the total weight transmitted to the road surface exceeds 18,000 pounds on a single axle or 32,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle within the tandem exceeding 18,000 pounds except:
(1) when a different limit is established and posted in accordance with Section 15-316 of this Code;
(2) vehicles for which the Department of Transportation and local authorities issue overweight permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this Code;
(3) tow trucks subject to the conditions provided in subsection (d) may not exceed 24,000 pounds on a single rear axle or 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle;
(4) any single axle of a 2-axle truck weighing 36,000 pounds or less and not a part of a combination of vehicles,
shall not exceed 20,000 pounds;
(5) any single axle of a 2-axle truck equipped with a personnel lift or digger derrick, weighing 36,000 pounds or less, owned and operated by a public utility, shall not exceed 20,000 pounds;
(6) any single axle of a 2-axle truck specially equipped with a front loading compactor used exclusively for garbage, refuse, or recycling may not exceed 20,000 pounds per axle, provided that the gross weight of the vehicle does not exceed 40,000 pounds;
(7) a truck, not in combination and specially equipped with a selfcompactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off container, used exclusively for garbage or refuse operations may, when laden, transmit upon the road surface the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle;
(8) a truck, not in combination and used exclusively for the collection of rendering materials, may, when laden, transmit upon the road surface the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle;
(9) tandem axles on a 3-axle truck registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the model year of 2014 and first registered in Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, with a distance greater than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches between any series of 2 axles,
is allowed a combined weight on the series not to exceed 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type manufactured after the model year of 2014 or first registered in Illinois after December 31, 2014 may not exceed a combined weight of 32,000 pounds through the series of 2 axles and neither axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds;
(10) a 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing and transportation of concrete in the plastic state and manufactured prior to or in the model year of 2014 and first registered in Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, is allowed the following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any single axle; 36,000 pounds on any series of 2 axles greater than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches; and 34,000 pounds on any series of 2 axles greater than 40 inches but not more than 72 inches;
(11) 4-axle vehicles or a 5 or more axle combination of vehicles: The weight transmitted upon the road surface through any series of 3 axles whose centers are more than 96 inches apart, measured between extreme axles in the series, may not exceed those allowed in the table contained in subsection (f) of this Section. No axle or tandem axle of the series may exceed the maximum weight permitted under this Section for a single or tandem axle. No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with other
than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with load, upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on the road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.
(b) On non-designated highways, the gross weight of vehicles and combination of vehicles including the weight of the vehicle or combination and its maximum load shall be subject to the foregoing limitations and further shall not exceed the following gross weights dependent upon the number of axles and distance between extreme axles of the vehicle or combination measured longitudinally to the nearest foot.

$$
\text { VEHICLES HAVING } 2 \text { AXLES ........................... 36,000 pounds }
$$

VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS
HAVING 3 AXLES
With Tandem
With or
Axles
Without
Tandem Axles
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Minimum } & \\ \text { distance to } & \text { Maximum } \\ \text { nearest foot } & \text { Gross } \\ \text { between } & \text { Weight } \\ \text { extreme axles } & \text { (pounds) } \\ 10 \text { feet } & 41,000\end{array}$
Minimum distance to

Maximum
Gross
Weight
(pounds)
16 feet
46,000

42,000
43,000
44,000
44,500
45,000

17
18
19
20
21 feet or more

47,000
47,500
48,000
49,000
50,000

VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS HAVING 4 AXLES

Minimum
distance to
nearest foot
between
extreme axles
15 feet
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

Minimum

| Maximum | distance to | Maximum |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Gross | nearest foot | Gross |
| Weight | between | Weight |
| (pounds) | extreme axles | (pounds) |
| 50,000 | 26 feet | 57,500 |
| 50,500 | 27 | 58,000 |
| 51,500 | 28 | 58,500 |
| 52,000 | 29 | 59,500 |
| 52,500 | 30 | 60,000 |
| 53,500 | 31 | 60,500 |
| 54,000 | 32 | 61,500 |
| 54,500 | 33 | 62,000 |
| 55,500 | 34 | 62,500 |
| 56,000 | 35 | 63,500 |
| 56,500 | 36 feet or more | 64,000 |

A vehicle not in a combination having more than 4 axles may not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (b) for 4 axles measured between the extreme axles of the vehicle.

COMBINATIONS HAVING 5 OR MORE AXLES
Minimum distance to
Maximum
nearest foot between
extreme axles
(pounds)
42 feet or less
72,000
43
73,000
44 feet or more
73,280

VEHICLES OPERATING ON CRAWLER TYPE TRACKS .... 40,000 pounds

TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH SELFCOMPACTORS OR ROLL-OFF HOISTS AND ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS FOR GARBAGE, REFUSE, OR RECYCLING HAULS ONLY AND TRUCKS USED FOR

THE COLLECTION OF RENDERING MATERIALS
On Highway Not Part of National System of Interstate and Defense Highways
with 2 axles
36,000 pounds
with 3 axles
54,000 pounds

TWO AXLE TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH
A FRONT LOADING COMPACTOR USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE COLLECTION OF GARBAGE, REFUSE, OR RECYCLING with 2 axles

40,000 pounds

A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special Hauling

Vehicle, used exclusively for mixing and transportation of concrete in the plastic state, manufactured before or in the model year of 2014, and first registered in Illinois before January 1, 2015, is allowed a maximum gross weight listed in the table of subsection (f) of this Section for 4 axles. This vehicle, while loaded with concrete in the plastic state, is not subject to the series of 3 axles requirement provided for in subdivision (a) (11) of this Section, but no axle or tandem axle of the series may exceed the maximum weight permitted under subdivision (a) (10) of this Section.
(b-1) As used in this Section, a "recycling haul" or "recycling operation" means the hauling of segregated, non-hazardous, non-special, homogeneous non-putrescible materials, such as paper, glass, cans, or plastic, for subsequent use in the secondary materials market.
(c) Cities having a population of more than 50,000 may permit by ordinance axle loads on 2 axle motor vehicles $331 / 2 \%$ above those provided for herein, but the increase shall not become effective until the city has officially notified the Department of the passage of the ordinance and shall not apply to those vehicles when outside of the limits of the city, nor shall the gross weight of any 2 axle motor vehicle operating over any street of the city exceed 40,000 pounds.
(d) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles (including loads) operated by a public utility when transporting equipment required for emergency repair of public
utility facilities or properties or water wells.
A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck and a disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles, that exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code, may be operated on a public highway in this state provided that neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being towed nor the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight limitations permitted under this Chapter. During the towing operation, neither the tow truck nor the vehicle combination shall exceed 24,000 pounds on a single rear axle and 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle, or 56,000 pounds on manufactured recovery units with a triple rear axle, except that triple-axle rotator tow-trucks are exempt from this weight limitation, provided the towing vehicle:
(1) is specifically designed as a tow truck having a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds and is equipped with air brakes, provided that air brakes are required only if the towing vehicle is towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer combination that is equipped with air brakes;
(2) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet in all directions;
(3) is capable of utilizing the lighting and braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles; and
(4) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles from the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any additional movement of the vehicles may occur only upon issuance of authorization for that movement under the provisions of Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this Code. The towing vehicle, however, may tow any disabled vehicle from the initial point of wreck or disablement to a point where repairs are actually to occur. This movement shall be valid only on State routes. The tower must abide by posted bridge weight limits.

Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed.

The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe additional requirements. However, nothing in this Code shall prohibit a tow truck under instructions of a police officer from legally clearing a disabled vehicle, that may be in
violation of weight limitations of this Chapter, from the roadway to the berm or shoulder of the highway. If in the opinion of the police officer that location is unsafe, the officer is authorized to have the disabled vehicle towed to the nearest place of safety.

For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight rating, or GVWR, shall mean the value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded weight of the tow truck.
(e) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this Chapter.
(f) On designated Class I, II, or III highways and the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, no vehicle or combination of vehicles with pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with load, when the total weight on the road surface exceeds the following: 20,000 pounds on a single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle within the tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds gross weight for vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or a total weight on a group of 2 or more consecutive axles in excess of that weight produced by the application of the following formula: W = 500 times the sum of (LN divided by N-1) + 12N + 36, where "W" equals overall total weight on any group of 2 or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, "L" equals the
distance measured to the nearest foot between extremes of any group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and "N" equals the number of axles in the group under consideration.

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

Distance measured
to the nearest
foot between the $\begin{array}{ll}\text { extremes of any } & \text { Maximum weight in pounds } \\ \text { group of } 2 \text { or } & \text { of any group of } \\ \text { more consecutive } & 2 \text { or more consecutive axles }\end{array}$ axles
feet 2 axles 3 axles 4 axles 5 axles 6 axles

| 1 | 16 | 48,000 | 52,500 | 58,000 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | 17 | 48,500 | 53,500 | 58,500 |  |
| 3 | 18 | 49,500 | 54,000 | 59,000 |  |
| 4 | 19 | 50,000 | 54,500 | 60,000 |  |
| 5 | 20 | 51,000 | 55,500 | 60,500 | 66,000 |
| 6 | 21 | 51,500 | 56,000 | 61,000 | 66,500 |
| 7 | 22 | 52,500 | 56,500 | 61,500 | 67,000 |
| 8 | 23 | 53,000 | 57,500 | 62,500 | 68,000 |
| 9 | 24 | 54,000 | 58,000 | 63,000 | 68,500 |
| 10 | 25 | 54,500 | 58,500 | 63,500 | 69,000 |
| 11 | 26 | 55,500 | 59,500 | 64,000 | 69,500 |
| 12 | 27 | 56,000 | 60,000 | 65,000 | 70,000 |
| 13 | 28 | 57,000 | 60,500 | 65,500 | 71,000 |
| 14 | 29 | 57,500 | 61,500 | 66,000 | 71,500 |
| 15 | 30 | 58,500 | 62,000 | 66,500 | 72,000 |
| 16 | 31 | 59,000 | 62,500 | 67,500 | 72,500 |
| 17 | 32 | 60,000 | 63,500 | 68,000 | 73,000 |
| 18 | 33 |  | 64,000 | 68,500 | 74,000 |
| 19 | 34 |  | 64,500 | 69,000 | 74,500 |
| 20 | 35 |  | 65,500 | 70,000 | 75,000 |
| 21 | 36 |  | 66,000 | 70,500 | 75,500 |
| 22 | 37 |  | 66,500 | 71,000 | 76,000 |
| 23 | 38 |  | 67,500 | 72,000 | 77,000 |
| 24 | 39 |  | 68,000 | 72,500 | 77,500 |
| 25 | 40 |  | 68,500 | 73,000 | 78,000 |
| 26 | 41 |  | 69,500 | 73,500 | 78,500 |

42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57

| 70,000 | 74,000 | 79,000 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 70,500 | 75,000 | 80,000 |
| 71,500 | 75,500 |  |
| 72,000 | 76,000 |  |
| 72,500 | 76,500 |  |
| 73,500 | 77,500 |  |
| 74,000 | 78,000 |  |
| 74,500 | 78,500 |  |
| 75,500 | 79,000 |  |
| 76,000 | 80,000 |  |
| 76,500 |  |  |
| 77,500 |  |  |
| 78,000 |  |  |
| 78,500 |  |  |
| 79,500 |  |  |
| 80,000 |  |  |

*If the distance between 2 axles is 96 inches or less, the 2 axles are tandem axles and the maximum total weight may not exceed 34,000 pounds, notwithstanding the higher limit resulting from the application of the formula.

Vehicles not in a combination having more than 4 axles may not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (f) for 4 axles measured between the extreme axles of the vehicle.

Vehicles in a combination having more than 6 axles may not exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (f) for 6 axles measured between the extreme axles of the combination.

Local authorities, with respect to streets and highways under their jurisdiction, without additional fees, may also by ordinance or resolution allow the weight limitations of this subsection, provided the maximum gross weight on any one axle shall not exceed 20,000 pounds and the maximum total weight on any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on designated highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving notice are erected upon the street or highway or portion of any street or highway affected by the ordinance or resolution.

The following are exceptions to the above formula:
(1) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a total weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more.
(2) Vehicles for which a different limit is established and posted in accordance with Section 15-316 of this Code.
(3) Vehicles for which the Department of Transportation and local authorities issue overweight permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this Code. These vehicles are not subject to the bridge formula.
(4) Tow trucks subject to the conditions provided in subsection (d) may not exceed 24,000 pounds on a single rear axle or 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle.
(5) A tandem axle on a 3-axle truck registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the model year of 2014, and registered in Illinois prior to

January 1, 2015, with a distance between 2 axles in a series greater than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches may not exceed a total weight of 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds.
(6) A truck not in combination, equipped with a self compactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off container, used exclusively for garbage, refuse, or recycling operations, may, when laden, transmit upon the road surface, except when on part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle; 36,000 pounds gross weight on a 2-axle vehicle; 54,000 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle. This vehicle is not subject to the bridge formula.
(7) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured prior to or in the model year of 2014, and registered in Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, having 5 axles with a distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may not exceed the following maximum weights: 18,000 pounds on a single axle; 32,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and 72,000 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles is not subject to the bridge formula. For all those combinations of vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 92nd General Assembly, the overall distance between the first
and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems must be 18 feet 6 inches or more. Any combination of vehicles that has had its cargo container replaced in its entirety after December 31, 2014 may not exceed the weights allowed by the bridge formula.
(8) A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing and transportation of concrete in the plastic state, manufactured before or in the model year of 2014, first registered in Illinois before January 1, 2015, and not operated on a highway that is part of the National System of Interstate Highways, is allowed the following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any single axle; 36,000 pounds on a series of axles greater than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches; and 34,000 pounds on any series of 2 axles greater than 40 inches but not more than 72 inches. The gross weight of this vehicle may not exceed the weights allowed by the bridge formula for 4 axles. The bridge formula does not apply to any series of 3 axles while the vehicle is transporting concrete in the plastic state, but no axle or tandem axle of the series may exceed the maximum weight permitted under this subsection (f).
No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with other than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with load, upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on the road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch
width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.
(f-1) A vehicle and load not exceeding 73,280 pounds is allowed access as follows:
(1) From any State designated highway onto any county, township, or municipal highway for a distance of 5 highway miles for the purpose of loading and unloading, provided:
(A) The vehicle and load does not exceed 8 feet 6 inches in width and 65 feet overall length.
(B) There is no sign prohibiting that access.
(C) The route is not being used as a thoroughfare between State designated highways.
(2) From any State designated highway onto any county or township highway for a distance of 5 highway miles, or any municipal highway for a distance of one highway mile for the purpose of food, fuel, repairs, and rest, provided:
(A) The vehicle and load does not exceed 8 feet 6 inches in width and 65 feet overall length.
(B) There is no sign prohibiting that access.
(C) The route is not being used as a thoroughfare between State designated highways.
(f-2) A vehicle and load greater than 73,280 pounds in weight but not exceeding 80,000 pounds is allowed access as follows:
(1) From a Class I highway onto any street or highway for a distance of one highway mile for the purpose of
loading, unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and rest, provided there is no sign prohibiting that access.
(2) From a Class I, II, or III highway onto any State highway or any local designated highway for a distance of 5 highway miles for the purpose of loading, unloading, food, fuel, repairs, and rest.

Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act relating to procedures for rulemaking shall not apply to the designation of highways under this subsection.
(g) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles over a bridge or other elevated structure constituting part of a highway with a gross weight that is greater than the maximum weight permitted by the Department, when the structure is sign posted as provided in this Section.
(h) The Department upon request from any local authority shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an investigation of any bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part of a highway, and if it finds that the structure cannot with safety to itself withstand the weight of vehicles otherwise permissible under this Code the Department shall determine and declare the maximum weight of vehicles that the structures can withstand, and shall cause or permit suitable signs stating maximum weight to be erected and maintained before each end of the structure. No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles over any structure with a gross weight that is greater than the posted maximum weight.
(i) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation of subsections (g) or (h) of this Section, proof of the determination of the maximum allowable weight by the Department and the existence of the signs, constitutes conclusive evidence of the maximum weight that can be maintained with safety to the bridge or structure.
(Source: P.A. 93-177, eff. 7-11-03; 93-186, eff. 1-1-04; 93-1023, eff. 8-25-04; 94-464, eff. 1-1-06; 94-926, eff. 1-1-07.)
(625 ILCS 5/15-301) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-301)
Sec. 15-301. Permits for excess size and weight.
(a) The Department with respect to highways under its jurisdiction and local authorities with respect to highways under their jurisdiction may, in their discretion, upon application and good cause being shown therefor, issue a special permit authorizing the applicant to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles of a size or weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in this Act or otherwise not in conformity with this Act upon any highway under the jurisdiction of the party granting such permit and for the maintenance of which the party is responsible. Applications and permits other than those in written or printed form may only be accepted from and issued to the company or individual making the movement. Except for an application to move directly across a highway, it shall be the duty of the
applicant to establish in the application that the load to be moved by such vehicle or combination is composed of a single nondivisible object that cannot reasonably be dismantled or disassembled. For the purpose of over length movements, more than one object may be carried side by side as long as the height, width, and weight laws are not exceeded and the cause for the over length is not due to multiple objects. For the purpose of over height movements, more than one object may be carried as long as the cause for the over height is not due to multiple objects and the length, width, and weight laws are not exceeded. For the purpose of an over width movement, more than one object may be carried as long as the cause for the over width is not due to multiple objects and length, height, and weight laws are not exceeded. No state or local agency shall authorize the issuance of excess size or weight permits for vehicles and loads that are divisible and that can be carried, when divided, within the existing size or weight maximums specified in this Chapter. Any excess size or weight permit issued in violation of the provisions of this Section shall be void at issue and any movement made thereunder shall not be authorized under the terms of the void permit. In any prosecution for a violation of this Chapter when the authorization of an excess size or weight permit is at issue, it is the burden of the defendant to establish that the permit was valid because the load to be moved could not reasonably be dismantled or disassembled, or was otherwise nondivisible.
(b) The application for any such permit shall: (1) state whether such permit is requested for a single trip or for limited continuous operation; (2) state if the applicant is an authorized carrier under the Illinois Motor Carrier of Property Law, if so, his certificate, registration or permit number issued by the Illinois Commerce Commission; (3) specifically describe and identify the vehicle or vehicles and load to be operated or moved except that for vehicles or vehicle combinations registered by the Department as provided in Section 15-319 of this Chapter, only the Illinois Department of Transportation's (IDT) registration number or classification need be given; (4) state the routing requested including the points of origin and destination, and may identify and include a request for routing to the nearest certified scale in accordance with the Department's rules and regulations, provided the applicant has approval to travel on local roads; and (5) state if the vehicles or loads are being transported for hire. No permits for the movement of a vehicle or load for hire shall be issued to any applicant who is required under the Illinois Motor Carrier of Property Law to have a certificate, registration or permit and does not have such certificate, registration or permit.
(c) The Department or local authority when not inconsistent with traffic safety is authorized to issue or withhold such permit at its discretion; or, if such permit is issued at its discretion to prescribe the route or routes to be traveled, to
limit the number of trips, to establish seasonal or other time limitations within which the vehicles described may be operated on the highways indicated, or otherwise to limit or prescribe conditions of operations of such vehicle or vehicles, when necessary to assure against undue damage to the road foundations, surfaces or structures, and may require such undertaking or other security as may be deemed necessary to compensate for any injury to any roadway or road structure. The Department shall maintain a daily record of each permit issued along with the fee and the stipulated dimensions, weights, conditions and restrictions authorized and this record shall be presumed correct in any case of questions or dispute. The Department shall install an automatic device for recording applications received and permits issued by telephone. In making application by telephone, the Department and applicant waive all objections to the recording of the conversation.
(d) The Department shall, upon application in writing from any local authority, issue an annual permit authorizing the local authority to move oversize highway construction, transportation, utility and maintenance equipment over roads under the jurisdiction of the Department. The permit shall be applicable only to equipment and vehicles owned by or registered in the name of the local authority, and no fee shall be charged for the issuance of such permits.
(e) As an exception to paragraph (a) of this Section, the Department and local authorities, with respect to highways
under their respective jurisdictions, in their discretion and upon application in writing may issue a special permit for limited continuous operation, authorizing the applicant to move loads of agricultural commodities on a 2 axle single vehicle registered by the Secretary of State with axle loads not to exceed $35 \%$, on a 3 or 4 axle vehicle registered by the Secretary of State with axle loads not to exceed 20\%, and on a 5 axle vehicle registered by the Secretary of State not to exceed 10\% above those provided in Section 15-111. The total gross weight of the vehicle, however, may not exceed the maximum gross weight of the registration class of the vehicle allowed under Section 3-815 or 3-818 of this Code.

As used in this Section, "agricultural commodities" means:
(1) cultivated plants or agricultural produce grown including, but is not limited to, corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, grain sorghum, canola, and rice;
(2) livestock, including but not limited to hogs, equine, sheep, and poultry;
(3) ensilage; and
(4) fruits and vegetables.

Permits may be issued for a period not to exceed 40 days and moves may be made of a distance not to exceed 50 miles from a field, an on-farm grain storage facility, a warehouse as defined in the Illinois Grain Code, or a livestock management facility as defined in the Livestock Management Facilities Act over any highway except the National System of Interstate and

Defense Highways. The operator of the vehicle, however, must abide by posted bridge and posted highway weight limits. All implements of husbandry operating under this Section between sunset and sunrise shall be equipped as prescribed in Section 12-205.1.
(e-1) Upon a declaration by the Governor that an emergency harvest situation exists, a special permit issued by the Department under this Section shall not be required from September 1 through December 31 during harvest season emergencies, provided that the weight does not exceed 20\% above the limits provided in Section 15-111. All other restrictions that apply to permits issued under this Section shall apply during the declared time period. With respect to highways under the jurisdiction of local authorities, the local authorities may, at their discretion, waive special permit requirements during harvest season emergencies. This permit exemption shall apply to all vehicles eligible to obtain permits under this Section, including commercial vehicles in use during the declared time period.
(f) The form and content of the permit shall be determined by the Department with respect to highways under its jurisdiction and by local authorities with respect to highways under their jurisdiction. Every permit shall be in written form and carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it refers and shall be open to inspection by any police officer or authorized agent of any authority granting the permit and no
person shall violate any of the terms or conditions of such special permit. Violation of the terms and conditions of the permit shall not be deemed a revocation of the permit; however, any vehicle and load found to be off the route prescribed in the permit shall be held to be operating without a permit. Any off route vehicle and load shall be required to obtain a new permit or permits, as necessary, to authorize the movement back onto the original permit routing. No rule or regulation, nor anything herein shall be construed to authorize any police officer, court, or authorized agent of any authority granting the permit to remove the permit from the possession of the permittee unless the permittee is charged with a fraudulent permit violation as provided in paragraph (i). However, upon arrest for an offense of violation of permit, operating without a permit when the vehicle is off route, or any size or weight offense under this Chapter when the permittee plans to raise the issuance of the permit as a defense, the permittee, or his agent, must produce the permit at any court hearing concerning the alleged offense.

If the permit designates and includes a routing to a certified scale, the permitee, while enroute to the designated scale, shall be deemed in compliance with the weight provisions of the permit provided the axle or gross weights do not exceed any of the permitted limits by more than the following amounts:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { Single axle } & 2000 \text { pounds } \\
\text { Tandem axle } & 3000 \text { pounds }
\end{array}
$$

Gross
5000 pounds
(g) The Department is authorized to adopt, amend, and to make available to interested persons a policy concerning reasonable rules, limitations and conditions or provisions of operation upon highways under its jurisdiction in addition to those contained in this Section for the movement by special permit of vehicles, combinations, or loads which cannot reasonably be dismantled or disassembled, including manufactured and modular home sections and portions thereof. All rules, limitations and conditions or provisions adopted in the policy shall have due regard for the safety of the traveling public and the protection of the highway system and shall have been promulgated in conformity with the provisions of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. The requirements of the policy for flagmen and escort vehicles shall be the same for all moves of comparable size and weight. When escort vehicles are required, they shall meet the following requirements:
(1) All operators shall be 18 years of age or over and properly licensed to operate the vehicle.
(2) Vehicles escorting oversized loads more than 12-feet wide must be equipped with a rotating or flashing amber light mounted on top as specified under Section 12-215.

The Department shall establish reasonable rules and regulations regarding liability insurance or self insurance
for vehicles with oversized loads promulgated under The Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. Police vehicles may be required for escort under circumstances as required by rules and regulations of the Department.
(h) Violation of any rule, limitation or condition or provision of any permit issued in accordance with the provisions of this Section shall not render the entire permit null and void but the violator shall be deemed guilty of violation of permit and guilty of exceeding any size, weight or load limitations in excess of those authorized by the permit. The prescribed route or routes on the permit are not mere rules, limitations, conditions, or provisions of the permit, but are also the sole extent of the authorization granted by the permit. If a vehicle and load are found to be off the route or routes prescribed by any permit authorizing movement, the vehicle and load are operating without a permit. Any off route movement shall be subject to the size and weight maximums, under the applicable provisions of this Chapter, as determined by the type or class highway upon which the vehicle and load are being operated.
(i) Whenever any vehicle is operated or movement made under a fraudulent permit the permit shall be void, and the person, firm, or corporation to whom such permit was granted, the driver of such vehicle in addition to the person who issued such permit and any accessory, shall be guilty of fraud and either one or all persons may be prosecuted for such violation.

Any person, firm, or corporation committing such violation shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony and the Department shall not issue permits to the person, firm or corporation convicted of such violation for a period of one year after the date of conviction. Penalties for violations of this Section shall be in addition to any penalties imposed for violation of other Sections of this Act.
(j) Whenever any vehicle is operated or movement made in violation of a permit issued in accordance with this Section, the person to whom such permit was granted, or the driver of such vehicle, is guilty of such violation and either, but not both, persons may be prosecuted for such violation as stated in this subsection (j). Any person, firm or corporation convicted of such violation shall be guilty of a petty offense and shall be fined for the first offense, not less than $\$ 50$ nor more than $\$ 200$ and, for the second offense by the same person, firm or corporation within a period of one year, not less than $\$ 200$ nor more than $\$ 300$ and, for the third offense by the same person, firm or corporation within a period of one year after the date of the first offense, not less than $\$ 300$ nor more than $\$ 500$ and the Department shall not issue permits to the person, firm or corporation convicted of a third offense during a period of one year after the date of conviction for such third offense.
(k) Whenever any vehicle is operated on local roads under permits for excess width or length issued by local authorities, such vehicle may be moved upon a State highway for a distance
not to exceed one-half mile without a permit for the purpose of crossing the State highway.
(l) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, the Department, with respect to highways under its jurisdiction, and local authorities, with respect to highways under their jurisdiction, may at their discretion authorize the movement of a vehicle in violation of any size or weight requirement, or both, that would not ordinarily be eligible for a permit, when there is a showing of extreme necessity that the vehicle and load should be moved without unnecessary delay.

For the purpose of this subsection, showing of extreme necessity shall be limited to the following: shipments of livestock, hazardous materials, liquid concrete being hauled in a mobile cement mixer, or hot asphalt.
(m) Penalties for violations of this Section shall be in addition to any penalties imposed for violating any other Section of this Code.
(n) The Department with respect to highways under its jurisdiction and local authorities with respect to highways under their jurisdiction, in their discretion and upon application in writing, may issue a special permit for continuous limited operation, authorizing the applicant to operate a tow-truck that exceeds the weight limits provided for in subsection (d) of Section 15-111, provided:
(1) no rear single axle of the tow-truck exceeds 26,000 pounds;
(2) no rear tandem axle of the tow-truck exceeds 50,000 pounds;
(2.1) no weight limit applies to a triple rear axle on a manufactured recovery unit 56,000 pounds;
(3) neither the towed disuled vehicle nor the combination of vehicles exceed the weight restrictions imposed by this Chapter 15, or the weight limits imposed under a permit issued by the Department prior to hookup;
(4) the tow-truck prior to hookup does not exceed the weight restrictions imposed by this Chapter 15;
(5) during the tow operation the tow-truck does not violate any weight restriction sign;
(6) the tow-truck is equipped with flashing, rotating, or oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet in all directions;
(7) the tow-truck is specifically designed and licensed as a tow-truck;
(8) the tow-truck has a gross vehicle weight rating of sufficient capacity to safely handle the load;
(9) the tow-truck is equipped with air brakes;
(10) the tow-truck is capable of utilizing the lighting and braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles;
(11) the tow commences at the initial point of wreck or disablement and terminates at a point where the repairs are actually to occur;
(12) the permit issued to the tow-truck is carried in the tow-truck and exhibited on demand by a police officer; and
(13) the movement shall be valid only on state routes approved by the Department.
(o) The Department, with respect to highways under its jurisdiction, and local authorities, with respect to highways under their jurisdiction, in their discretion and upon application in writing, may issue a special permit for continuous limited operation, authorizing the applicant to transport raw milk that exceeds the weight limits provided for in subsections (b) and (f) of Section 15-111 of this Code, provided:
(1) no single axle exceeds 20,000 pounds;
(2) no gross weight exceeds 80,000 pounds;
(3) permits issued by the State are good only for federal and State highways and are not applicable to interstate highways; and
(4) all road and bridge postings must be obeyed. (Source: P.A. 93-718, eff. 1-1-05; 93-971, eff. 8-20-04; 93-1023, eff. 8-25-04; revised 10-14-04.)

