

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 15-301 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-301) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-301)

7 Sec. 15-301. Permits for excess size and weight.

8 (a) The Department with respect to highways under its
9 jurisdiction and local authorities with respect to highways
10 under their jurisdiction may, in their discretion, upon
11 application and good cause being shown therefor, issue a
12 special permit authorizing the applicant to operate or move a
13 vehicle or combination of vehicles of a size or weight of
14 vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in this Act or
15 otherwise not in conformity with this Act upon any highway
16 under the jurisdiction of the party granting such permit and
17 for the maintenance of which the party is responsible.
18 Applications and permits other than those in written or printed
19 form may only be accepted from and issued to the company or
20 individual making the movement. Except for an application to
21 move directly across a highway, it shall be the duty of the
22 applicant to establish in the application that the load to be
23 moved by such vehicle or combination cannot reasonably be

1 dismantled or disassembled, the reasonableness of which shall
2 be determined by the Secretary of the Department. For the
3 purpose of over length movements, more than one object may be
4 carried side by side as long as the height, width, and weight
5 laws are not exceeded and the cause for the over length is not
6 due to multiple objects. For the purpose of over height
7 movements, more than one object may be carried as long as the
8 cause for the over height is not due to multiple objects and
9 the length, width, and weight laws are not exceeded. For the
10 purpose of an over width movement, more than one object may be
11 carried as long as the cause for the over width is not due to
12 multiple objects and length, height, and weight laws are not
13 exceeded. Except for transporting fluid milk products, no State
14 or local agency shall authorize the issuance of excess size or
15 weight permits for vehicles and loads that are divisible and
16 that can be carried, when divided, within the existing size or
17 weight maximums specified in this Chapter. Any excess size or
18 weight permit issued in violation of the provisions of this
19 Section shall be void at issue and any movement made thereunder
20 shall not be authorized under the terms of the void permit. In
21 any prosecution for a violation of this Chapter when the
22 authorization of an excess size or weight permit is at issue,
23 it is the burden of the defendant to establish that the permit
24 was valid because the load to be moved could not reasonably be
25 dismantled or disassembled, or was otherwise nondivisible.

26 (b) The application for any such permit shall: (1) state

1 whether such permit is requested for a single trip or for
2 limited continuous operation; (2) state if the applicant is an
3 authorized carrier under the Illinois Motor Carrier of Property
4 Law, if so, his certificate, registration or permit number
5 issued by the Illinois Commerce Commission; (3) specifically
6 describe and identify the vehicle or vehicles and load to be
7 operated or moved except that for vehicles or vehicle
8 combinations registered by the Department as provided in
9 Section 15-319 of this Chapter, only the Illinois Department of
10 Transportation's (IDT) registration number or classification
11 need be given; (4) state the routing requested including the
12 points of origin and destination, and may identify and include
13 a request for routing to the nearest certified scale in
14 accordance with the Department's rules and regulations,
15 provided the applicant has approval to travel on local roads;
16 and (5) state if the vehicles or loads are being transported
17 for hire. No permits for the movement of a vehicle or load for
18 hire shall be issued to any applicant who is required under the
19 Illinois Motor Carrier of Property Law to have a certificate,
20 registration or permit and does not have such certificate,
21 registration or permit.

22 (c) The Department or local authority when not inconsistent
23 with traffic safety is authorized to issue or withhold such
24 permit at its discretion; or, if such permit is issued at its
25 discretion to prescribe the route or routes to be traveled, to
26 limit the number of trips, to establish seasonal or other time

1 limitations within which the vehicles described may be operated
2 on the highways indicated, or otherwise to limit or prescribe
3 conditions of operations of such vehicle or vehicles, when
4 necessary to assure against undue damage to the road
5 foundations, surfaces or structures, and may require such
6 undertaking or other security as may be deemed necessary to
7 compensate for any injury to any roadway or road structure. The
8 Department shall maintain a daily record of each permit issued
9 along with the fee and the stipulated dimensions, weights,
10 conditions and restrictions authorized and this record shall be
11 presumed correct in any case of questions or dispute. The
12 Department shall install an automatic device for recording
13 applications received and permits issued by telephone. In
14 making application by telephone, the Department and applicant
15 waive all objections to the recording of the conversation.

16 (d) The Department shall, upon application in writing from
17 any local authority, issue an annual permit authorizing the
18 local authority to move oversize highway construction,
19 transportation, utility and maintenance equipment over roads
20 under the jurisdiction of the Department. The permit shall be
21 applicable only to equipment and vehicles owned by or
22 registered in the name of the local authority, and no fee shall
23 be charged for the issuance of such permits.

24 (e) As an exception to subsection ~~paragraph~~ (a) of this
25 Section, the Department and local authorities, with respect to
26 highways under their respective jurisdictions, in their

1 discretion and upon application in writing may issue a special
2 permit for limited continuous operation, authorizing the
3 applicant to move loads of agricultural commodities on a 2-axle
4 ~~2-axle~~ single vehicle registered by the Secretary of State with
5 axle loads not to exceed 35%, on a 3-axle or 4-axle ~~3 or 4-axle~~
6 vehicle registered by the Secretary of State with axle loads
7 not to exceed 20%, and on a 5-axle ~~5-axle~~ vehicle registered by
8 the Secretary of State not to exceed 10% above those provided
9 in Section 15-111. The total gross weight of the vehicle,
10 however, may not exceed the maximum gross weight of the
11 registration class of the vehicle allowed under Section 3-815
12 or 3-818 of this Code.

13 As used in this Section, "agricultural commodities" means:

14 (1) cultivated plants or agricultural produce grown
15 including, but ~~is~~ not limited to, corn, soybeans, wheat,
16 oats, grain sorghum, canola, and rice;

17 (2) livestock, including, l but not limited to, l hogs,
18 equine, sheep, and poultry;

19 (3) ensilage; and

20 (4) fruits and vegetables.

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

1 Defense Highways. The operator of the vehicle, however, must
2 abide by posted bridge and posted highway weight limits. All
3 implements of husbandry operating under this Section between
4 sunset and sunrise shall be equipped as prescribed in Section
5 12-205.1.

6 (e-1) Upon a declaration by the Governor that an emergency
7 harvest situation exists, a special permit issued by the
8 Department under this Section shall be required from September
9 1 through December 31 during harvest season emergencies for a
10 vehicle that exceeds the maximum axle weight and gross weight
11 limits under Section 15-111 of this Code or exceeds the
12 vehicle's registered gross weight, provided that the vehicle's
13 axle weight and gross weight do not exceed 10% above the
14 maximum limits under Section 15-111 of this Code and does not
15 exceed the vehicle's registered gross weight by 10%. All other
16 restrictions that apply to permits issued under this Section
17 shall apply during the declared time period and no fee shall be
18 charged for the issuance of those permits. Permits issued by
19 the Department under this subsection (e-1) are only valid on
20 federal and State highways under the jurisdiction of the
21 Department, except interstate highways. With respect to
22 highways under the jurisdiction of local authorities, the local
23 authorities may, at their discretion, waive special permit
24 requirements during harvest season emergencies, and set a
25 divisible load weight limit not to exceed 10% above a vehicle's
26 registered gross weight, provided that the vehicle's axle

1 weight and gross weight do not exceed 10% above the maximum
2 limits specified in Section 15-111. Permits issued under this
3 subsection (e-1) shall apply to all registered vehicles
4 eligible to obtain permits under this Section, including
5 vehicles used in private or for-hire movement of divisible load
6 agricultural commodities during the declared time period.

7 (e-5) As an exemption to subsection (a), the Department and
8 local authorities, with respect to highways under their
9 respective jurisdictions, in their discretion and upon
10 application in writing may issue a special permit authorizing
11 the applicant to move loads of agricultural commodities if: (i)
12 the vehicle's axle weight and gross weight do not exceed 10%
13 above the maximum limits under Section 15-111 of this Code; and
14 (ii) the vehicle's gross weight does not exceed the vehicle's
15 registered gross weight by 10%. All other restrictions that
16 apply to permits issued under this Section shall apply.

17 Permits issued by the Department under this subsection
18 (e-5) are valid only on federal and State highways under the
19 jurisdiction of the Department other than interstate highways.
20 With respect to highways under the jurisdiction of a local
21 authority, the local authority may, at its discretion, waive
22 special permit requirements for highways under its
23 jurisdiction for any vehicle issued a special permit by the
24 Department under this Section.

25 The fee for a permit under this subsection shall be \$500,
26 to be deposited into the State Construction Account Fund.

1 However, the fee for a combination of permits authorized by the
2 Department for highways under its jurisdiction and local
3 authorities for highways under their jurisdictions shall not
4 exceed a total of \$1,000.

5 (f) The form and content of the permit shall be determined
6 by the Department with respect to highways under its
7 jurisdiction and by local authorities with respect to highways
8 under their jurisdiction. Every permit shall be in written form
9 and carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which
10 it refers and shall be open to inspection by any police officer
11 or authorized agent of any authority granting the permit and no
12 person shall violate any of the terms or conditions of such
13 special permit. Violation of the terms and conditions of the
14 permit shall not be deemed a revocation of the permit; however,
15 any vehicle and load found to be off the route prescribed in
16 the permit shall be held to be operating without a permit. Any
17 off route vehicle and load shall be required to obtain a new
18 permit or permits, as necessary, to authorize the movement back
19 onto the original permit routing. No rule or regulation, nor
20 anything herein shall be construed to authorize any police
21 officer, court, or authorized agent of any authority granting
22 the permit to remove the permit from the possession of the
23 permittee unless the permittee is charged with a fraudulent
24 permit violation as provided in subsection ~~paragraph~~ (i).
25 However, upon arrest for an offense of violation of permit,
26 operating without a permit when the vehicle is off route, or

1 any size or weight offense under this Chapter when the
2 permittee plans to raise the issuance of the permit as a
3 defense, the permittee, or his agent, must produce the permit
4 at any court hearing concerning the alleged offense.

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

10	Single axle	2000 pounds
11	Tandem axle	3000 pounds
12	Gross	5000 pounds

13 (g) The Department is authorized to adopt, amend, and to
14 make available to interested persons a policy concerning
15 reasonable rules, limitations and conditions or provisions of
16 operation upon highways under its jurisdiction in addition to
17 those contained in this Section for the movement by special
18 permit of vehicles, combinations, or loads which cannot
19 reasonably be dismantled or disassembled, including
20 manufactured and modular home sections and portions thereof.
21 All rules, limitations and conditions or provisions adopted in
22 the policy shall have due regard for the safety of the
23 traveling public and the protection of the highway system and
24 shall have been promulgated in conformity with the provisions
25 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. The requirements
26 of the policy for flagmen and escort vehicles shall be the same

1 for all moves of comparable size and weight. When escort
2 vehicles are required, they shall meet the following
3 requirements:

4 (1) All operators shall be 18 years of age or over and
5 properly licensed to operate the vehicle.

6 (2) Vehicles escorting oversized loads more than
7 12-feet wide must be equipped with a rotating or flashing
8 amber light mounted on top as specified under Section
9 12-215.

10 The Department shall establish reasonable rules and
11 regulations regarding liability insurance or self insurance
12 for vehicles with oversized loads promulgated under the
13 Illinois Administrative Procedure Act. Police vehicles may be
14 required for escort under circumstances as required by rules
15 and regulations of the Department.

16 (h) Violation of any rule, limitation or condition or
17 provision of any permit issued in accordance with the
18 provisions of this Section shall not render the entire permit
19 null and void but the violator shall be deemed guilty of
20 violation of permit and guilty of exceeding any size, weight or
21 load limitations in excess of those authorized by the permit.
22 The prescribed route or routes on the permit are not mere
23 rules, limitations, conditions, or provisions of the permit,
24 but are also the sole extent of the authorization granted by
25 the permit. If a vehicle and load are found to be off the route
26 or routes prescribed by any permit authorizing movement, the

1 vehicle and load are operating without a permit. Any off-route
2 ~~off-route~~ movement shall be subject to the size and weight
3 maximums, under the applicable provisions of this Chapter, as
4 determined by the type or class highway upon which the vehicle
5 and load are being operated.

6 (i) Whenever any vehicle is operated or movement made under
7 a fraudulent permit the permit shall be void, and the person,
8 firm, or corporation to whom such permit was granted, the
9 driver of such vehicle in addition to the person who issued
10 such permit and any accessory, shall be guilty of fraud and
11 either one or all persons may be prosecuted for such violation.
12 Any person, firm, or corporation committing such violation
13 shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony and the Department shall
14 not issue permits to the person, firm or corporation convicted
15 of such violation for a period of one year after the date of
16 conviction. Penalties for violations of this Section shall be
17 in addition to any penalties imposed for violation of other
18 Sections of this Code Act.

19 (j) Whenever any vehicle is operated or movement made in
20 violation of a permit issued in accordance with this Section,
21 the person to whom such permit was granted, or the driver of
22 such vehicle, is guilty of such violation and either, but not
23 both, persons may be prosecuted for such violation as stated in
24 this subsection (j). Any person, firm or corporation convicted
25 of such violation shall be guilty of a petty offense and shall
26 be fined for the first offense, not less than \$50 nor more than

1 \$200 and, for the second offense by the same person, firm or
2 corporation within a period of one year, not less than \$200 nor
3 more than \$300 and, for the third offense by the same person,
4 firm or corporation within a period of one year after the date
5 of the first offense, not less than \$300 nor more than \$500 and
6 the Department shall not issue permits to the person, firm or
7 corporation convicted of a third offense during a period of one
8 year after the date of conviction for such third offense.

9 (k) Whenever any vehicle is operated on local roads under
10 permits for excess width or length issued by local authorities,
11 such vehicle may be moved upon a State highway for a distance
12 not to exceed one-half mile without a permit for the purpose of
13 crossing the State highway.

14 (l) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section,
15 the Department, with respect to highways under its
16 jurisdiction, and local authorities, with respect to highways
17 under their jurisdiction, may at their discretion authorize the
18 movement of a vehicle in violation of any size or weight
19 requirement, or both, that would not ordinarily be eligible for
20 a permit, when there is a showing of extreme necessity that the
21 vehicle and load should be moved without unnecessary delay.

22 For the purpose of this subsection, showing of extreme
23 necessity shall be limited to the following: shipments of
24 livestock, hazardous materials, liquid concrete being hauled
25 in a mobile cement mixer, or hot asphalt.

26 (m) Penalties for violations of this Section shall be in

1 addition to any penalties imposed for violating any other
2 Section of this Code.

3 (n) The Department with respect to highways under its
4 jurisdiction and local authorities with respect to highways
5 under their jurisdiction, in their discretion and upon
6 application in writing, may issue a special permit for
7 continuous limited operation, authorizing the applicant to
8 operate a tow truck ~~tow-truck~~ that exceeds the weight limits
9 provided for in subsection (a) of Section 15-111, provided:

10 (1) no rear single axle of the tow truck ~~tow-truck~~
11 exceeds 26,000 pounds;

12 (2) no rear tandem axle of the tow truck ~~tow-truck~~
13 exceeds 50,000 pounds;

14 (2.1) no triple rear axle on a manufactured recovery
15 unit exceeds 60,000 pounds;

16 (3) neither the disabled vehicle nor the disabled
17 combination of vehicles exceed the weight restrictions
18 imposed by this Chapter 15, or the weight limits imposed
19 under a permit issued by the Department prior to hookup;

20 (4) the tow truck ~~tow-truck~~ prior to hookup does not
21 exceed the weight restrictions imposed by this Chapter 15;

22 (5) during the tow operation the tow truck ~~tow-truck~~
23 does not violate any weight restriction sign;

24 (6) the tow truck ~~tow-truck~~ is equipped with flashing,
25 rotating, or oscillating amber lights, visible for at least
26 500 feet in all directions;

1 (7) the tow truck ~~tow truck~~ is specifically designed
2 and licensed as a tow truck ~~tow truck~~;

3 (8) the tow truck ~~tow truck~~ has a gross vehicle weight
4 rating of sufficient capacity to safely handle the load;

5 (9) the tow truck ~~tow truck~~ is equipped with air
6 brakes;

7 (10) the tow truck ~~tow truck~~ is capable of utilizing
8 the lighting and braking systems of the disabled vehicle or
9 combination of vehicles;

10 (11) the tow commences at the initial point of wreck or
11 disablement and terminates at a point where the repairs are
12 actually to occur;

13 (12) the permit issued to the tow truck ~~tow truck~~ is
14 carried in the tow truck ~~tow truck~~ and exhibited on demand
15 by a police officer; and

16 (13) the movement shall be valid only on State ~~state~~
17 routes approved by the Department.

18 (o) (Blank).

19 (p) In determining whether a load may be reasonably
20 dismantled or disassembled for the purpose of subsection
21 ~~paragraph~~ (a), the Department shall consider whether there is a
22 significant negative impact on the condition of the pavement
23 and structures along the proposed route, whether the load or
24 vehicle as proposed causes a safety hazard to the traveling
25 public, whether dismantling or disassembling the load promotes
26 or stifles economic development and whether the proposed route

1 travels less than 5 miles. A load is not required to be
2 dismantled or disassembled for the purposes of subsection
3 ~~paragraph~~ (a) if the Secretary of the Department determines
4 there will be no significant negative impact to pavement or
5 structures along the proposed route, the proposed load or
6 vehicle causes no safety hazard to the traveling public,
7 dismantling or disassembling the load does not promote economic
8 development and the proposed route travels less than 5 miles.
9 The Department may promulgate rules for the purpose of
10 establishing the divisibility of a load pursuant to subsection
11 ~~paragraph~~ (a). Any load determined by the Secretary to be
12 nondivisible shall otherwise comply with the existing size or
13 weight maximums specified in this Chapter.

14 (Source: P.A. 99-717, eff. 8-5-16; 100-70, eff. 8-11-17;
15 revised 10-12-17.)

16 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
17 2019.