

HB5233



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB5233

Introduced 2/9/2024, by Rep. Angelica Guerrero-Cuellar

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/15-111

from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that a vehicle or combination of vehicles powered primarily by means of electric battery power may exceed the posted weight limits by up to 2,000 pounds.

LRB103 35733 MXP 65814 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
5 changing Section 15-111 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-111) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-111)

7 Sec. 15-111. Wheel and axle loads and gross weights.

8 (a) No vehicle or combination of vehicles with pneumatic
9 tires may be operated, unladen or with load, when the total
10 weight on the road surface exceeds the following: 20,000
11 pounds on a single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no
12 axle within the tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds
13 gross weight for vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or a
14 total weight on a group of 2 or more consecutive axles in
15 excess of that weight produced by the application of the
16 following formula: $W = 500 \text{ times the sum of } (LN \text{ divided by } N-1)$
17 $+ 12N + 36$, where "W" equals overall total weight on any group
18 of 2 or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, "L"
19 equals the distance measured to the nearest foot between
20 extremes of any group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and "N"
21 equals the number of axles in the group under consideration.

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

1	Distance measured					
2	to the nearest					
3	foot between the					
4	extremes of any		Maximum weight in pounds			
5	group of 2 or		of any group of			
6	more consecutive		2 or more consecutive axles			
7	axles					
8	feet	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
9	4	34,000				
10	5	34,000				
11	6	34,000				
12	7	34,000				
13	8	34,000*	34,000			
14	Between 8					
15	and 9	38,000	42,000			
16	9	39,000	42,500			
17	10	40,000	43,500			
18	11		44,000			
19	12		45,000	50,000		
20	13		45,500	50,500		
21	14		46,500	51,500		
22	15		47,000	52,000		
23	16		48,000	52,500	58,000	
24	17		48,500	53,500	58,500	
25	18		49,500	54,000	59,000	

1	19	50,000	54,500	60,000	
2	20	51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000
3	21	51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
4	22	52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
5	23	53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
6	24	54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
7	25	54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
8	26	55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
9	27	56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
10	28	57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
11	29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500
12	30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000
13	31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500
14	32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000
15	33		64,000	68,500	74,000
16	34		64,500	69,000	74,500
17	35		65,500	70,000	75,000
18	36		66,000**	70,500	75,500
19	37		66,500**	71,000	76,000
20	38		67,500**	72,000	77,000
21	39		68,000	72,500	77,500
22	40		68,500	73,000	78,000
23	41		69,500	73,500	78,500
24	42		70,000	74,000	79,000
25	43		70,500	75,000	80,000
26	44		71,500	75,500	

1	45	72,000	76,000
2	46	72,500	76,500
3	47	73,500	77,500
4	48	74,000	78,000
5	49	74,500	78,500
6	50	75,500	79,000
7	51	76,000	80,000
8	52	76,500	
9	53	77,500	
10	54	78,000	
11	55	78,500	
12	56	79,500	
13	57	80,000	

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

18 **Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry 34,000 pounds
19 each if the overall distance between the first and last axles
20 of these tandems is 36 feet or more.

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

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

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

10 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

11 (1) Vehicles for which a different limit is
12 established and posted in accordance with Section 15-316
13 of this Code.

14 (2) Vehicles for which the Department of
15 Transportation and local authorities issue overweight
16 permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this Code.
17 These vehicles are not subject to the bridge formula.

18 (3) Cities having a population of more than 50,000 may
19 permit by ordinance axle loads on 2-axle motor vehicles 33
20 1/2% above those provided for herein, but the increase
21 shall not become effective until the city has officially
22 notified the Department of the passage of the ordinance
23 and shall not apply to those vehicles when outside of the
24 limits of the city, nor shall the gross weight of any
25 2-axle motor vehicle operating over any street of the city
26 exceed 40,000 pounds.

1 (4) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles
2 (including loads) operated by a public utility when
3 transporting equipment required for emergency repair of
4 public utility facilities or properties or water wells.

5 (4.5) A 3-axle or 4-axle vehicle (including when
6 laden) operated or hired by a municipality within Cook,
7 Lake, McHenry, Kane, DuPage, or Will county being operated
8 for the purpose of performing emergency sewer repair that
9 would be subject to a weight limitation less than 66,000
10 pounds under the formula in this subsection (a) shall have
11 a weight limitation of 66,000 pounds or the vehicle's
12 gross vehicle weight rating, whichever is less. This
13 paragraph (4.5) does not apply to vehicles being operated
14 on the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways,
15 or to vehicles being operated on bridges or other elevated
16 structures constituting a part of a highway.

17 (5) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a
18 total weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance
19 between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets
20 of tandem axles is 36 feet or more, notwithstanding the
21 lower limit resulting from the application of the above
22 formula.

23 (6) A truck, not in combination and used exclusively
24 for the collection of rendering materials, may, when
25 laden, transmit upon the road surface, except when on part
26 of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways,

1 the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single
2 axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle.

3 (7) A truck not in combination, equipped with a self
4 compactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off
5 container, used exclusively for garbage, refuse, or
6 recycling operations, may, when laden, transmit upon the
7 road surface, except when on part of the National System
8 of Interstate and Defense Highways, the following maximum
9 weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on
10 a tandem axle; 40,000 pounds gross weight on a 2-axle
11 vehicle; 54,000 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle.
12 This vehicle is not subject to the bridge formula.

13 (7.5) A 3-axle rear discharge truck mixer registered
14 as a Special Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the
15 mixing and transportation of concrete in the plastic
16 state, may, when laden, transmit upon the road surface,
17 except when on part of the National System of Interstate
18 and Defense Highways, the following maximum weights:
19 22,000 pounds on single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem
20 axle; 54,000 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle. This
21 vehicle is not subject to the bridge formula.

22 (8) Except as provided in paragraph (7.5) of this
23 subsection (a), tandem axles on a 3-axle truck registered
24 as a Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in
25 the model year of 2024 and first registered in Illinois
26 prior to January 1, 2025, with a distance greater than 72

1 inches but not more than 96 inches between any series of 2
2 axles, is allowed a combined weight on the series not to
3 exceed 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may
4 exceed 20,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type
5 manufactured after the model year of 2024 or first
6 registered in Illinois after December 31, 2024 may not
7 exceed a combined weight of 34,000 pounds through the
8 series of 2 axles and neither axle of the series may exceed
9 20,000 pounds.

10 A 3-axle combination sewer cleaning jetting vacuum
11 truck registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, used
12 exclusively for the transportation of non-hazardous solid
13 waste, manufactured before or in the model year of 2014,
14 first registered in Illinois before January 1, 2015, may,
15 when laden, transmit upon the road surface, except when on
16 part of the National System of Interstate and Defense
17 Highways, the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on
18 a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle; 54,000
19 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle. This vehicle is
20 not subject to the bridge formula.

21 (9) A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special
22 Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing and
23 transportation of concrete in the plastic state, and not
24 operated on a highway that is part of the National System
25 of Interstate Highways, is allowed the following maximum
26 weights: 20,000 pounds on any single axle; 36,000 pounds

1 on a series of axles greater than 72 inches but not more
2 than 96 inches; and 34,000 pounds on any series of 2 axles
3 greater than 40 inches but not more than 72 inches. The
4 gross weight of this vehicle may not exceed the weights
5 allowed by the bridge formula for 4 axles. The bridge
6 formula does not apply to any series of 3 axles while the
7 vehicle is transporting concrete in the plastic state, but
8 no axle or tandem axle of the series may exceed the maximum
9 weight permitted under this paragraph (9) of subsection
10 (a).

11 (10) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special
12 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured
13 prior to or in the model year of 2024, and registered in
14 Illinois prior to January 1, 2025, having 5 axles with a
15 distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may not
16 exceed the following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on a
17 single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and 72,000
18 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles is not
19 subject to the bridge formula. For all those combinations
20 of vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured after
21 the effective date of P.A. 92-0417, the overall distance
22 between the first and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems
23 must be 18 feet 6 inches or more. Any combination of
24 vehicles that has had its cargo container replaced in its
25 entirety after December 31, 2024 may not exceed the
26 weights allowed by the bridge formula.

1 (11) The maximum weight allowed on a vehicle with
2 crawler type tracks is 40,000 pounds.

3 (12) A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck
4 and a disabled vehicle or disabled combination of
5 vehicles, that exceeds the weight restriction imposed by
6 this Code, may be operated on a public highway in this
7 State provided that neither the disabled vehicle nor any
8 vehicle being towed nor the tow truck itself shall exceed
9 the weight limitations permitted under this Chapter.
10 During the towing operation, neither the tow truck nor the
11 vehicle combination shall exceed 24,000 pounds on a single
12 rear axle and 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle,
13 provided the towing vehicle:

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

20 (ii) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or
21 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500
22 feet in all directions;

23 (iii) is capable of utilizing the lighting and
24 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination
25 of vehicles; and

26 (iv) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles

1 from the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any
2 additional movement of the vehicles may occur only
3 upon issuance of authorization for that movement under
4 the provisions of Sections 15-301 through 15-318 of
5 this Code. The towing vehicle, however, may tow any
6 disabled vehicle to a point where repairs are actually
7 to occur. This movement shall be valid only on State
8 routes. The tower must abide by posted bridge weight
9 limits.

10 (12.5) The vehicle weight limitations in this Section
11 do not apply to a covered heavy duty tow and recovery
12 vehicle. The covered heavy duty tow and recovery vehicle
13 license plate must cover the operating empty weight of the
14 covered heavy duty tow and recovery vehicle only.

15 (13) Upon and during a declaration of an emergency
16 propane supply disaster by the Governor under Section 7 of
17 the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act:

18 (i) a truck not in combination, equipped with a
19 cargo tank, used exclusively for the transportation of
20 propane or liquefied petroleum gas may, when laden,
21 transmit upon the road surface, except when on part of
22 the National System of Interstate and Defense
23 Highways, the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds
24 on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle;
25 40,000 pounds gross weight on a 2-axle vehicle; 54,000
26 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle; and

1 (ii) a truck when in combination with a trailer
2 equipped with a cargo tank used exclusively for the
3 transportation of propane or liquefied petroleum gas
4 may, when laden, transmit upon the road surface,
5 except when on part of the National System of
6 Interstate and Defense Highways, the following maximum
7 weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds
8 on a tandem axle; 90,000 pounds gross weight on a
9 5-axle or 6-axle vehicle.

10 Vehicles operating under this paragraph (13) are not
11 subject to the bridge formula.

12 (14) A vehicle or combination of vehicles that uses
13 either natural gas or propane gas as a motor fuel or power
14 primarily by means of electric battery power may exceed
15 the above weight limitations by up to 2,000 pounds,~~the~~
16 ~~total allowance is calculated by an amount that is equal~~
17 ~~to the difference between the weight of the vehicle~~
18 ~~attributable to the natural gas or propane gas tank and~~
19 ~~fueling system carried by the vehicle, and the weight of a~~
20 ~~comparable diesel tank and fueling system.~~ This paragraph
21 (14) shall not allow a vehicle to exceed any posted weight
22 limit on a highway or structure.

23 (15) An emergency vehicle or fire apparatus that is a
24 vehicle designed to be used under emergency conditions to
25 transport personnel and equipment, and used to support the
26 suppression of fires and mitigation of other hazardous

1 situations on a Class I highway, may not exceed 86,000
2 pounds gross weight, or any of the following weight
3 allowances:

- 4 (i) 24,000 pounds on a single steering axle;
- 5 (ii) 33,500 pounds on a single drive axle;
- 6 (iii) 62,000 pounds on a tandem axle; or
- 7 (iv) 52,000 pounds on a tandem rear drive steer
8 axle.

9 (16) A bus, motor coach, or recreational vehicle may
10 carry a total weight of 24,000 pounds on a single axle, but
11 may not exceed other weight provisions of this Section.

12 Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of
13 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license
14 plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck
15 only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered
16 by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the
17 vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid
18 plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is
19 displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that
20 vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of
21 the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate
22 issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and
23 temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed. If a roll-back
24 carrier is registered and being used as a tow truck, however,
25 the license plate or plates for the tow truck must cover the
26 gross vehicle weight, including any load carried on the bed of

1 the roll-back carrier.

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

11 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight
12 rating, or GVWR, means the value specified by the manufacturer
13 as the loaded weight of the tow truck.

14 (b) As used in this Section, "recycling haul" or
15 "recycling operation" means the hauling of non-hazardous,
16 non-special, non-putrescible materials, such as paper, glass,
17 cans, or plastic, for subsequent use in the secondary
18 materials market.

19 (c) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with
20 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon
21 the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of
22 any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301
23 through 15-318 of this Chapter.

24 (d) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with
25 other than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with
26 load, upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on

1 the road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch
2 width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road
3 surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.

4 (e) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of
5 vehicles over a bridge or other elevated structure
6 constituting part of a highway with a gross weight that is
7 greater than the maximum weight permitted by the Department,
8 when the structure is sign posted as provided in this Section.

9 (f) The Department upon request from any local authority
10 shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an
11 investigation of any bridge or other elevated structure
12 constituting a part of a highway, and if it finds that the
13 structure cannot with safety to itself withstand the weight of
14 vehicles otherwise permissible under this Code the Department
15 shall determine and declare the maximum weight of vehicles
16 that the structures can withstand, and shall cause or permit
17 suitable signs stating maximum weight to be erected and
18 maintained before each end of the structure. No person shall
19 operate a vehicle or combination of vehicles over any
20 structure with a gross weight that is greater than the posted
21 maximum weight.

22 (g) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation
23 of subsection (e) or (f) of this Section, proof of the
24 determination of the maximum allowable weight by the
25 Department and the existence of the signs, constitutes
26 conclusive evidence of the maximum weight that can be

1 maintained with safety to the bridge or structure.

2 (Source: P.A. 102-124, eff. 7-23-21.)