

# HB0232



**94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**State of Illinois**  
**2005 and 2006**  
**HB0232**

Introduced 1/14/2005, by Rep. Joseph M. Lyons

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

625 ILCS 5/15-111

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

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that a truck, not used in combination with another vehicle and used exclusively for the delivery of propane fuel, may, when laden, transmit upon a road surface a maximum weight of 22,000 pounds on a single axle or 40,000 on a tandem axle.

LRB094 05148 DRH 35188 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning vehicles.

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 15-111 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) On non-designated highways, no vehicle or combination  
9 of vehicles equipped with pneumatic tires may be operated,  
10 unladen or with load, when the total weight transmitted to the  
11 road surface exceeds 18,000 pounds on a single axle or 32,000  
12 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle within the tandem  
13 exceeding 18,000 pounds except:

14 (1) when a different limit is established and posted in  
15 accordance with Section 15-316 of this Code;

16 (2) vehicles for which the Department of  
17 Transportation and local authorities issue overweight  
18 permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this Code;

19 (3) tow trucks subject to the conditions provided in  
20 subsection (d) may not exceed 24,000 pounds on a single  
21 rear axle or 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle;

22 (4) any single axle of a 2-axle truck weighing 36,000  
23 pounds or less and not a part of a combination of vehicles,  
24 shall not exceed 20,000 pounds;

25 (5) any single axle of a 2-axle truck equipped with a  
26 personnel lift or digger derrick, weighing 36,000 pounds or  
27 less, owned and operated by a public utility, shall not  
28 exceed 20,000 pounds;

29 (6) any single axle of a 2-axle truck specially  
30 equipped with a front loading compactor used exclusively  
31 for garbage, refuse, or recycling may not exceed 20,000  
32 pounds per axle, provided that the gross weight of the

1 vehicle does not exceed 40,000 pounds;

2 (7) a truck, not in combination and specially equipped  
3 with a selfcompactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and  
4 roll-off container, used exclusively for garbage or refuse  
5 operations may, when laden, transmit upon the road surface  
6 the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single  
7 axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle;

8 (8) a truck, not in combination and used exclusively  
9 for the collection of rendering materials or for the  
10 delivery of propane fuel, may, when laden, transmit upon  
11 the road surface the following maximum weights: 22,000  
12 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle;

13 (9) tandem axles on a 3-axle truck registered as a  
14 Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the  
15 model year of 2014 and first registered in Illinois prior  
16 to January 1, 2015, with a distance greater than 72 inches  
17 but not more than 96 inches between any series of 2 axles,  
18 is allowed a combined weight on the series not to exceed  
19 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may exceed  
20 18,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type manufactured after  
21 the model year of 2014 or first registered in Illinois  
22 after December 31, 2014 may not exceed a combined weight of  
23 32,000 pounds through the series of 2 axles and neither  
24 axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds;

25 (10) tandem axles on a 4-axle truck mixer, whose fourth  
26 axle is a road surface engaging mixer trailing axle,  
27 registered as a Special Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively  
28 for the mixing and transportation of concrete and  
29 manufactured prior to or in the model year of 2014 and  
30 first registered in Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, with  
31 a distance greater than 72 inches but not more than 96  
32 inches between any series of 2 axles, is allowed a combined  
33 weight on the series not to exceed 36,000 pounds and  
34 neither axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds. Any  
35 vehicle of this type manufactured after the model year of  
36 2014 or first registered in Illinois after December 31,

1 2014 may not exceed a combined weight of 32,000 pounds  
2 through the series of 2 axles and neither axle of the  
3 series may exceed 18,000 pounds;

4 (11) 4-axle vehicles or a 5 or more axle combination of  
5 vehicles: The weight transmitted upon the road surface  
6 through any series of 3 axles whose centers are more than  
7 96 inches apart, measured between extreme axles in the  
8 series, may not exceed those allowed in the table contained  
9 in subsection (f) of this Section. No axle or tandem axle  
10 of the series may exceed the maximum weight permitted under  
11 this Section for a single or tandem axle.

12 No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with other  
13 than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with load,  
14 upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on the  
15 road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch  
16 width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road  
17 surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.

18 (b) On non-designated highways, the gross weight of  
19 vehicles and combination of vehicles including the weight of  
20 the vehicle or combination and its maximum load shall be  
21 subject to the foregoing limitations and further shall not  
22 exceed the following gross weights dependent upon the number of  
23 axles and distance between extreme axles of the vehicle or  
24 combination measured longitudinally to the nearest foot.

25 VEHICLES HAVING 2 AXLES ..... 36,000 pounds

26 VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS

27 HAVING 3 AXLES

28	With Tandem		With or	
29	Axles		Without	
30			Tandem Axles	
31	Minimum		Minimum	
32	distance to	Maximum	distance to	Maximum
33	nearest foot	Gross	nearest foot	Gross
34	between	Weight	between	Weight

1	extreme axles	(pounds)	extreme axles	(pounds)
2	10 feet	41,000	16 feet	46,000
3	11	42,000	17	47,000
4	12	43,000	18	47,500
5	13	44,000	19	48,000
6	14	44,500	20	49,000
7	15	45,000	21 feet or more	50,000

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VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS HAVING 4 AXLES

10	Minimum		Minimum	
11	distance to	Maximum	distance to	Maximum
12	nearest foot	Gross	nearest foot	Gross
13	between	Weight	between	Weight
14	extreme axles	(pounds)	extreme axles	(pounds)
15	15 feet	50,000	26 feet	57,500
16	16	50,500	27	58,000
17	17	51,500	28	58,500
18	18	52,000	29	59,500
19	19	52,500	30	60,000
20	20	53,500	31	60,500
21	21	54,000	32	61,500
22	22	54,500	33	62,000
23	23	55,500	34	62,500
24	24	56,000	35	63,500
25	25	56,500	36 feet or more	64,000

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

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COMBINATIONS HAVING 5 OR MORE AXLES

31	Minimum distance to	Maximum
32	nearest foot between	Gross Weight
33	extreme axles	(pounds)
34	42 feet or less	72,000
35	43	73,000
36	44 feet or more	73,280

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

2 TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH SELFCOMPACTORS  
3 OR ROLL-OFF HOISTS AND ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS FOR GARBAGE  
4 OR REFUSE HAULS ONLY AND TRUCKS USED FOR  
5 THE COLLECTION OF RENDERING MATERIALS  
6 On Highway Not Part of National System  
7 of Interstate and Defense Highways

8 with 2 axles 36,000 pounds  
9 with 3 axles 54,000 pounds

10 TWO AXLE TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH  
11 A FRONT LOADING COMPACTOR USED EXCLUSIVELY  
12 FOR THE COLLECTION OF GARBAGE, REFUSE, OR RECYCLING

13 with 2 axles 40,000 pounds

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

22 (d) Weight limitations shall not apply to vehicles  
23 (including loads) operated by a public utility when  
24 transporting equipment required for emergency repair of public  
25 utility facilities or properties or water wells.

26 A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck and a  
27 disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles, that  
28 exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code, may be  
29 operated on a public highway in this State provided that  
30 neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being towed nor  
31 the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight limitations  
32 permitted under this Chapter. During the towing operation,

1 neither the tow truck nor the vehicle combination shall exceed  
2 24,000 pounds on a single rear axle and 44,000 pounds on a  
3 tandem rear axle, provided the towing vehicle:

4 (1) is specifically designed as a tow truck having a  
5 gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds and  
6 is equipped with air brakes, provided that air brakes are  
7 required only if the towing vehicle is towing a vehicle,  
8 semitrailer, or tractor-trailer combination that is  
9 equipped with air brakes;

10 (2) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or  
11 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet in  
12 all directions;

13 (3) is capable of utilizing the lighting and braking  
14 systems of the disabled vehicle or combination of vehicles;  
15 and

16 (4) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles from  
17 the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any additional  
18 movement of the vehicles may occur only upon issuance of  
19 authorization for that movement under the provisions of  
20 Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this Code. The towing  
21 vehicle, however, may tow any disabled vehicle from the  
22 initial point of wreck or disablement to a point where  
23 repairs are actually to occur. This movement shall be valid  
24 only on State routes. The tower must abide by posted bridge  
25 weight limits.

26 Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of  
27 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license  
28 plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck  
29 only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered  
30 by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the  
31 vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid  
32 plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is  
33 displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that  
34 vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of  
35 the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate  
36 issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and

1 temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed.

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 the  
10 nearest place of safety.

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.

14 (e) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with  
15 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon  
16 the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of  
17 any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301  
18 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

19 (f) On designated Class I, II, or III highways and the  
20 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, no vehicle  
21 or combination of vehicles with pneumatic tires may be  
22 operated, unladen or with load, when the total weight on the  
23 road surface exceeds the following: 20,000 pounds on a single  
24 axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle within the  
25 tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds gross weight for  
26 vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or a total weight on a  
27 group of 2 or more consecutive axles in excess of that weight  
28 produced by the application of the following formula:  $W = 500$   
29 times the sum of  $(LN \text{ divided by } N-1) + 12N + 36$ , where "W"  
30 equals overall total weight on any group of 2 or more  
31 consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, "L" equals the  
32 distance measured to the nearest foot between extremes of any  
33 group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and "N" equals the number  
34 of axles in the group under consideration.

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



1	Distance measured		Maximum weight in pounds			
	to the nearest		of any group of			
2	foot between the		2 or more consecutive axles			
3	extremes of any					
4	group of 2 or					
5	more consecutive					
6	axles					
7	feet	2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
8	4	34,000				
9	5	34,000				
10	6	34,000				
11	7	34,000				
12	8	38,000*	42,000			
13	9	39,000	42,500			
14	10	40,000	43,500			
15	11		44,000			
16	12		45,000	50,000		
17	13		45,500	50,500		
18	14		46,500	51,500		
19	15		47,000	52,000		
20	16		48,000	52,500	58,000	
21	17		48,500	53,500	58,500	
22	18		49,500	54,000	59,000	
23	19		50,000	54,500	60,000	
24	20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000
25	21		51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
26	22		52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
27	23		53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
28	24		54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
29	25		54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
30	26		55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
31	27		56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
32	28		57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
33	29		57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500
34	30		58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000

1	31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500
2	32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000
3	33		64,000	68,500	74,000
4	34		64,500	69,000	74,500
5	35		65,500	70,000	75,000
6	36		66,000	70,500	75,500
7	37		66,500	71,000	76,000
8	38		67,500	72,000	77,000
9	39		68,000	72,500	77,500
10	40		68,500	73,000	78,000
11	41		69,500	73,500	78,500
12	42		70,000	74,000	79,000
13	43		70,500	75,000	80,000
14	44		71,500	75,500	
15	45		72,000	76,000	
16	46		72,500	76,500	
17	47		73,500	77,500	
18	48		74,000	78,000	
19	49		74,500	78,500	
20	50		75,500	79,000	
21	51		76,000	80,000	
22	52		76,500		
23	53		77,500		
24	54		78,000		
25	55		78,500		
26	56		79,500		
27	57		80,000		

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

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

35 Vehicles in a combination having more than 6 axles may not  
 36 exceed the weight in the table in this subsection (f) for 6

1 axles measured between the extreme axles of the combination.

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

11 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

12 (1) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a  
13 total weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance  
14 between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of  
15 tandem axles is 36 feet or more.

16 (2) Vehicles for which a different limit is established  
17 and posted in accordance with Section 15-316 of this Code.

18 (3) Vehicles for which the Department of  
19 Transportation and local authorities issue overweight  
20 permits under authority of Section 15-301 of this Code.  
21 These vehicles are not subject to the bridge formula.

22 (4) Tow trucks subject to the conditions provided in  
23 subsection (d) may not exceed 24,000 pounds on a single  
24 rear axle or 44,000 pounds on a tandem rear axle.

25 (5) A tandem axle on a 3-axle truck registered as a  
26 Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in the  
27 model year of 2014, and registered in Illinois prior to  
28 January 1, 2015, with a distance between 2 axles in a  
29 series greater than 72 inches but not more than 96 inches  
30 may not exceed a total weight of 36,000 pounds and neither  
31 axle of the series may exceed 18,000 pounds.

32 (6) A truck not in combination, equipped with a self  
33 compactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off  
34 container, used exclusively for garbage or refuse  
35 operations, may, when laden, transmit upon the road  
36 surface, except when on part of the National System of

1 Interstate and Defense Highways, the following maximum  
2 weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a  
3 tandem axle; 36,000 pounds gross weight on a 2-axle  
4 vehicle; 54,000 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle.  
5 This vehicle is not subject to the bridge formula.

6 (7) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special  
7 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured  
8 prior to or in the model year of 2014, and registered in  
9 Illinois prior to January 1, 2015, having 5 axles with a  
10 distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may not  
11 exceed the following maximum weights: 18,000 pounds on a  
12 single axle; 32,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and 72,000  
13 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles is not  
14 subject to the bridge formula. For all those combinations  
15 of vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured after  
16 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 92nd  
17 General Assembly, the overall distance between the first  
18 and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems must be 18 feet 6  
19 inches or more. Any combination of vehicles that has had  
20 its cargo container replaced in its entirety after December  
21 31, 2014 may not exceed the weights allowed by the bridge  
22 formula.

23 No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with other  
24 than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with load,  
25 upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on the  
26 road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch  
27 width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road  
28 surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.

29 (f-1) A vehicle and load not exceeding 73,280 pounds is  
30 allowed access as follows:

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

34 (A) The vehicle and load does not exceed 8 feet 6  
35 inches in width and 65 feet overall length.

36 (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 any municipal highway for a distance of one highway mile  
6 for the purpose of food, fuel, repairs, and rest, provided:

7 (A) The vehicle and load does not exceed 8 feet 6  
8 inches in width and 65 feet overall length.

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

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

12 (f-2) A vehicle and load greater than 73,280 pounds in  
13 weight but not exceeding 80,000 pounds is allowed access as  
14 follows:

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

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

23 Section 5-35 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act  
24 relating to procedures for rulemaking shall not apply to the  
25 designation of highways under this subsection.

26 (g) No person shall operate a vehicle or combination of  
27 vehicles over a bridge or other elevated structure constituting  
28 part of a highway with a gross weight that is greater than the  
29 maximum weight permitted by the Department, when the structure  
30 is sign posted as provided in this Section.

31 (h) The Department upon request from any local authority  
32 shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an investigation  
33 of any bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part  
34 of a highway, and if it finds that the structure cannot with  
35 safety to itself withstand the weight of vehicles otherwise  
36 permissible under this Code the Department shall determine and

1 declare the maximum weight of vehicles that the structures can  
2 withstand, and shall cause or permit suitable signs stating  
3 maximum weight to be erected and maintained before each end of  
4 the structure. No person shall operate a vehicle or combination  
5 of vehicles over any structure with a gross weight that is  
6 greater than the posted maximum weight.

7 (i) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation  
8 of subsections (g) or (h) of this Section, proof of the  
9 determination of the maximum allowable weight by the Department  
10 and the existence of the signs, constitutes conclusive evidence  
11 of the maximum weight that can be maintained with safety to the  
12 bridge or structure.

13 (Source: P.A. 92-417, eff. 1-1-02; 93-177, eff. 7-11-03;  
14 93-186, eff. 1-1-04; 93-1023, eff. 8-25-04.)