

HB3537



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB3537

Introduced 2/24/2011, by Rep. David Reis - John D. Cavaletto -
Jil Tracy

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/15-107

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

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that the length limits for the distance between the kingpin and the center of the rear axle of semitrailers longer than 48 feet shall not apply to trailers used for the transport of livestock.

LRB097 10561 HEP 50908 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning transportation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Vehicle Code is amended by changing
5 Section 15-107 as follows:

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

7 Sec. 15-107. Length of vehicles.

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

10 (1) Semitrailers.

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

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

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

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

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

23 (3) Combinations specially designed to transport motor

1 vehicles or boats may not exceed 60 feet overall dimension.

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

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

20 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or
21 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph (6)
22 of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length
23 limitations.

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

26 (c) Except as provided in subsections (c-1) and (c-2),

1 combinations of vehicles may not exceed a total of 2 vehicles
2 except the following:

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

4 (2) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one converter
5 dolly.

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

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

11 (5) Recreational vehicles consisting of 3 vehicles,
12 provided the following:

13 (A) The total overall dimension does not exceed 60
14 feet.

15 (B) The towing vehicle is a properly registered
16 vehicle capable of towing another vehicle using a
17 fifth-wheel type assembly.

18 (C) The second vehicle in the combination of
19 vehicles is a recreational vehicle that is towed by a
20 fifth-wheel assembly. This vehicle must be properly
21 registered and must be equipped with brakes,
22 regardless of weight.

23 (D) The third vehicle must be the lightest of the 3
24 vehicles and be a trailer or semitrailer designed or
25 used for transporting a boat, all-terrain vehicle,
26 personal watercraft, or motorcycle.

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

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

7 (6) A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle
8 or combination of disabled vehicles, provided the towing
9 vehicle:

10 (A) Is specifically designed as a tow truck having
11 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds
12 and equipped with air brakes, provided that air brakes
13 are required only if the towing vehicle is towing a
14 vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer combination
15 that is equipped with air brakes. For the purpose of
16 this subsection, gross vehicle weight rating, or GVWR,
17 means the value specified by the manufacturer as the
18 loaded weight of the tow truck.

19 (B) Is equipped with flashing, rotating, or
20 oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet
21 in all directions.

22 (C) Is capable of utilizing the lighting and
23 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination
24 of vehicles.

25 (D) Does not engage a tow exceeding 50 highway
26 miles from the initial point of wreck or disablement to

1 a place of repair. Any additional movement of the
2 vehicles may occur only upon issuance of authorization
3 for that movement under the provisions of Sections
4 15-301 through 15-319 of this Code.

5 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe
6 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a
7 tow truck towing another vehicle.

8 For purposes of this Section, a tow-dolly that merely
9 serves as substitute wheels for another legally licensed
10 vehicle is considered part of the licensed vehicle and not
11 a separate vehicle.

12 (7) Commercial vehicles consisting of 3 vehicles,
13 provided the following:

14 (A) The total overall dimension does not exceed 65
15 feet.

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

19 (C) The third vehicle must be the lightest of the 3
20 vehicles and be a trailer or semitrailer.

21 (D) All vehicles must be properly equipped with
22 operating brakes and safety equipment required by this
23 Code.

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

26 (F) The combination of vehicles must be en route to

1 a location where new or used trailers are sold by an
2 Illinois or out-of-state licensed new or used trailer
3 dealer.

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

6 (1) the length of neither towed vehicle exceeds 28.5
7 feet;

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

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

13 (c-2) A combination of 3 vehicles is allowed access from
14 any State designated highway onto any county, township, or
15 municipal highway for a distance of 5 highway miles for the
16 purpose of delivery or collection of one or both of the towed
17 vehicles if:

18 (1) the length of neither towed vehicle exceeds 28.5
19 feet;

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

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

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

25 (5) the combination of vehicles is en route to a
26 location where new or used trailers are sold by an Illinois

1 or out-of-state licensed new or used trailer dealer.

2 (d) On Class I highways there are no overall length
3 limitations on motor vehicles operating in combinations
4 provided:

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

7 (2) The distance between the kingpin and the center of
8 the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in
9 combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 45 feet 6
10 inches. The length limit contained in this paragraph (2)
11 shall not apply to trailers used for the transport of
12 livestock.

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

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

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

24 (6) Stinger steered semitrailer vehicles as defined in
25 Chapter 1, specifically designed to transport motor
26 vehicles or boats, may not exceed 75 feet overall

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

5 (7) A truck in transit transporting 3 trucks coupled
6 together by the triple saddlemount method may not exceed 75
7 feet overall dimension.

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

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

26 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or

1 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph (6)
2 of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length
3 limitations.

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

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

14 (e) On Class II highways there are no overall length
15 limitations on motor vehicles operating in combinations,
16 provided:

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

20 (2) The distance between the kingpin and the center of
21 the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in
22 combination with a truck tractor, may not exceed 45 feet 6
23 inches. The length limit contained in this paragraph (2)
24 shall not apply to trailers used for the transport of
25 livestock.

26 (3) A truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination

1 may not exceed 65 feet in dimension from front axle to rear
2 axle.

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

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

8 (6) A combination of vehicles, specifically designed
9 to transport motor vehicles or boats, may not exceed 65
10 feet overall dimension. The length limitation is inclusive
11 of front and rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of
12 the transported vehicles, as provided in paragraph (i) of
13 this Section.

14 (7) Stinger steered semitrailer vehicles, as defined
15 in Chapter 1, specifically designed to transport motor
16 vehicles or boats, may not exceed 75 feet overall
17 dimension. The length limitation is inclusive of front and
18 rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the
19 transported vehicles, as provided in paragraph (i) of this
20 Section.

21 (8) A truck in transit transporting 3 trucks coupled
22 together by the triple saddlemount method may not exceed 75
23 feet overall dimension.

24 Vehicles operating during daylight hours when transporting
25 poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a structural
26 nature that cannot readily be dismembered are exempt from

1 length limitations, provided that no object may exceed 80 feet
2 in length and the overall dimension of the vehicle including
3 the load may not exceed 100 feet. This exemption does not apply
4 to operation on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Legal
5 holidays referred to in this Section are the days on which the
6 following traditional holidays are celebrated: New Year's Day;
7 Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Thanksgiving Day;
8 and Christmas Day.

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

16 A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle or
17 combination of disabled vehicles, as provided in paragraph (6)
18 of subsection (c) of this Section, is exempt from length
19 limitations.

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

23 The length limitations described in this paragraph (e)
24 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,
25 such as bumpers, refrigeration units or air compressors and
26 other devices, that the Department may interpret as necessary

1 for safe and efficient operation; except that no device
2 excluded under this paragraph shall have by its design or use
3 the capability to carry cargo.

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

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

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

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

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

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

17 (2) From any State designated highway onto any county
18 or township highway for a distance of 5 highway miles or
19 onto any municipal highway for a distance of one highway
20 mile for the purpose of food, fuel, repairs, and rest,
21 provided:

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

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

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

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

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

9 (2) From a Class I or Class II highway onto any State
10 highway or any locally designated highway for a distance of
11 5 highway miles for the purpose of loading, unloading,
12 food, fuel, repairs, and rest.

13 (e-3) Combinations of vehicles over 65 feet in length
14 operated by household goods carriers, with no overall length
15 limitations except as provided in subsections (d) and (e) of
16 this Section, have unlimited access to points of loading and
17 unloading.

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

21 (1) Truck tractor-semitrailer combinations, must
22 comply with either a maximum 55 feet overall wheel base or
23 a maximum 65 feet extreme overall dimension.

24 (2) Semitrailers, unladen or with load, may not exceed
25 53 feet overall dimension.

26 (3) No truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination

1 may exceed 60 feet extreme overall dimension.

2 (4) The distance between the kingpin and the center
3 axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet, in combination
4 with a truck tractor, may not exceed 42 feet 6 inches. The
5 length limit contained in this paragraph (4) shall not
6 apply to trailers used for the transport of livestock.

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

9 (1) Vehicles operated in the daytime, except on
10 Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays, when transporting
11 poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural
12 nature that cannot readily be dismembered, provided the
13 overall length of vehicle and load may not exceed 100 feet
14 and no object exceeding 80 feet in length may be
15 transported unless a permit has been obtained as authorized
16 in Section 15-301.

17 (2) Vehicles and loads operated by a public utility
18 while en route to make emergency repairs to public service
19 facilities or properties, but during night operation every
20 vehicle and its load must be equipped with a sufficient
21 number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps
22 upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly
23 mark the dimensions of the load.

24 (3) A tow truck in combination with a disabled vehicle
25 or combination of disabled vehicles, provided the towing
26 vehicle meets the following conditions:

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

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

10 (C) It is capable of utilizing the lighting and
11 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination
12 of vehicles.

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

15 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe
16 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a tow
17 truck towing another vehicle. The towing vehicle, however, may
18 tow any disabled vehicle from the initial point of wreck or
19 disablement to a point where repairs are actually to occur.
20 This movement shall be valid only on State routes. The tower
21 must abide by posted bridge weight limits.

22 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight
23 rating, or GVWR, shall mean the value specified by the
24 manufacturer as the loaded weight of the tow truck. Legal
25 holidays referred to in this Section shall be specified as the
26 day on which the following traditional holidays are celebrated:

1 New Year's Day;
2 Memorial Day;
3 Independence Day;
4 Labor Day;
5 Thanksgiving Day; and
6 Christmas Day.

7 (h) The load upon any vehicle operated alone, or the load
8 upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not
9 extend more than 3 feet beyond the front wheels of the vehicle
10 or the front bumper of the vehicle if it is equipped with a
11 front bumper. The provisions of this subsection (h) shall not
12 apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles specifically
13 designed for the collection and transportation of waste,
14 garbage, or recyclable materials during the vehicle's
15 operation in the course of collecting garbage, waste, or
16 recyclable materials if the vehicle is traveling at a speed not
17 in excess of 15 miles per hour during the vehicle's operation
18 and in the course of collecting garbage, waste, or recyclable
19 materials. However, in no instance shall the load extend more
20 than 7 feet beyond the front wheels of the vehicle or the front
21 bumper of the vehicle if it is equipped with a front bumper.

22 (i) The load upon the front vehicle of a combination of
23 vehicles specifically designed to transport motor vehicles
24 shall not extend more than 3 feet beyond the foremost part of
25 the transporting vehicle and the load upon the rear
26 transporting vehicle shall not extend more than 4 feet beyond

1 the rear of the bed or body of the vehicle. This paragraph
2 shall only be applicable upon highways designated in paragraphs
3 (d) and (e) of this Section.

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

9 1. operated by or for any public body or motor carrier
10 authorized by law to provide public transportation
11 services; or

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

15 (j-1) (Blank).

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

19 (l) (Blank).

20 (Source: P.A. 96-34, eff. 1-1-10; 96-37, eff. 7-13-09; 96-1352,
21 eff. 7-28-10.)