



93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

HB3964

Introduced 12/17/2003, by Rep. Bill Mitchell

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

625 ILCS 5/15-111

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

Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that a person is not in violation of the Code's weight limitations if he or she is transporting agricultural products from the original place of production during the period from September 1 through November 30 of any calendar year and the total weight of the vehicle and load does not exceed the permissible weight by more than 10%. Provides that the exemption does not apply to weight limits imposed for bridges or to vehicles operated on interstate highways.

LRB093 14791 DRH 40348 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

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, may, when laden,
10 transmit upon the road surface the following maximum
11 weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a
12 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

VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS HAVING 4 AXLES

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

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

COMBINATIONS HAVING 5 OR MORE AXLES

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

35 VEHICLES OPERATING ON CRAWLER TYPE TRACKS 40,000 pounds

1 TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH SELFCOMPACTORS
 2 OR ROLL-OFF HOISTS AND ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS FOR GARBAGE
 3 OR REFUSE HAULS ONLY AND TRUCKS USED FOR
 4 THE COLLECTION OF RENDERING MATERIALS
 5 On Highway Not Part of National System
 6 of Interstate and Defense Highways
 7 with 2 axles 36,000 pounds
 8 with 3 axles 54,000 pounds

9 TWO AXLE TRUCKS EQUIPPED WITH
 10 A FRONT LOADING COMPACTOR USED EXCLUSIVELY
 11 FOR THE COLLECTION OF GARBAGE, REFUSE, OR RECYCLING
 12 with 2 axles 40,000 pounds

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

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

25 A combination of vehicles, including a tow truck and a
 26 disabled vehicle or disabled combination of vehicles, that
 27 exceeds the weight restriction imposed by this Code, may be
 28 operated on a public highway in this State provided that
 29 neither the disabled vehicle nor any vehicle being towed nor
 30 the tow truck itself shall exceed the weight limitations
 31 permitted under this Chapter. During the towing operation,
 32 neither the tow truck nor the vehicle combination shall exceed
 33 24,000 pounds on a single rear axle and 44,000 pounds on a

1 tandem rear axle, provided the towing vehicle:

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

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

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

14 (4) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles from
15 the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any additional
16 movement of the vehicles may occur only upon issuance of
17 authorization for that movement under the provisions of
18 Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this Code.

19 Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of
20 the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license
21 plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck
22 only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered
23 by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the
24 vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid
25 plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is
26 displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that
27 vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of
28 the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate
29 issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and
30 temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed.

31 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe
32 additional requirements. However, nothing in this Code shall
33 prohibit a tow truck under instructions of a police officer
34 from legally clearing a disabled vehicle, that may be in
35 violation of weight limitations of this Chapter, from the
36 roadway to the berm or shoulder of the highway. If in the

1 opinion of the police officer that location is unsafe, the
2 officer is authorized to have the disabled vehicle towed to the
3 nearest place of safety.

4 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight
5 rating, or GVWR, shall mean the value specified by the
6 manufacturer as the loaded weight of the tow truck.

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

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

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

30	Distance measured	
31	to the nearest	
32	foot between the	
33	extremes of any	Maximum weight in pounds
34	group of 2 or	of any group of
35	more consecutive	2 or more consecutive axles

1	axles		2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles
2	feet						
3	4		34,000				
4	5		34,000				
5	6		34,000				
6	7		34,000				
7	8		38,000*	42,000			
8	9		39,000	42,500			
9	10		40,000	43,500			
10	11			44,000			
11	12			45,000	50,000		
12	13			45,500	50,500		
13	14			46,500	51,500		
14	15			47,000	52,000		
15	16			48,000	52,500	58,000	
16	17			48,500	53,500	58,500	
17	18			49,500	54,000	59,000	
18	19			50,000	54,500	60,000	
19	20			51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000
20	21			51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
21	22			52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
22	23			53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
23	24			54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
24	25			54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
25	26			55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
26	27			56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
27	28			57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
28	29			57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500
29	30			58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000
30	31			59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500
31	32			60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000
32	33				64,000	68,500	74,000
33	34				64,500	69,000	74,500
34	35				65,500	70,000	75,000
35	36				66,000	70,500	75,500
36	37				66,500	71,000	76,000

1	38	67,500	72,000	77,000
2	39	68,000	72,500	77,500
3	40	68,500	73,000	78,000
4	41	69,500	73,500	78,500
5	42	70,000	74,000	79,000
6	43	70,500	75,000	80,000
7	44	71,500	75,500	
8	45	72,000	76,000	
9	46	72,500	76,500	
10	47	73,500	77,500	
11	48	74,000	78,000	
12	49	74,500	78,500	
13	50	75,500	79,000	
14	51	76,000	80,000	
15	52	76,500		
16	53	77,500		
17	54	78,000		
18	55	78,500		
19	56	79,500		
20	57	80,000		

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

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

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

31 Local authorities, with respect to streets and highways
 32 under their jurisdiction, without additional fees, may also by
 33 ordinance or resolution allow the weight limitations of this
 34 subsection, provided the maximum gross weight on any one axle
 35 shall not exceed 20,000 pounds and the maximum total weight on
 36 any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on designated

1 highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving notice are
2 erected upon the street or highway or portion of any street or
3 highway affected by the ordinance or resolution.

4 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

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

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

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

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

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

25 (6) A truck not in combination, equipped with a self
26 compactor or an industrial roll-off hoist and roll-off
27 container, used exclusively for garbage or refuse
28 operations, may, when laden, transmit upon the road
29 surface, except when on part of the National System of
30 Interstate and Defense Highways, the following maximum
31 weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle; 40,000 pounds on a
32 tandem axle; 36,000 pounds gross weight on a 2-axle
33 vehicle; 54,000 pounds gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle.
34 This vehicle is not subject to the bridge formula.

35 (7) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special
36 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 (2) From any State designated highway onto any county
33 or township highway for a distance of 5 highway miles, or
34 any municipal highway for a distance of one highway mile
35 for the purpose of food, fuel, repairs, and rest, provided:

36 (A) The vehicle and load does not exceed 8 feet 6

1 inches in width and 65 feet overall length.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 (h) The Department upon request from any local authority
25 shall, or upon its own initiative may, conduct an investigation
26 of any bridge or other elevated structure constituting a part
27 of a highway, and if it finds that the structure cannot with
28 safety to itself withstand the weight of vehicles otherwise
29 permissible under this Code the Department shall determine and
30 declare the maximum weight of vehicles that the structures can
31 withstand, and shall cause or permit suitable signs stating
32 maximum weight to be erected and maintained before each end of
33 the structure. No person shall operate a vehicle or combination
34 of vehicles over any structure with a gross weight that is
35 greater than the posted maximum weight.

36 (i) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation

1 of subsections (g) or (h) of this Section, proof of the
2 determination of the maximum allowable weight by the Department
3 and the existence of the signs, constitutes conclusive evidence
4 of the maximum weight that can be maintained with safety to the
5 bridge or structure.

6 (j) A person is not in violation of this Section if:

7 (1) he or she is transporting agricultural products
8 from the original place of production during the period
9 from September 1 through November 30 of any calendar year;
10 and

11 (2) the total weight of the vehicle and load does not
12 exceed the permissible weight by more than 10%.

13 (k) The exemption provided by subsection (j) does not
14 apply to:

15 (1) weight limits imposed for bridges; or

16 (2) vehicles operated on interstate highways.

17 (Source: P.A. 92-417, eff. 1-1-02; 93-177, eff. 7-11-03;
18 93-186, eff. 1-1-04; revised 8-12-03.)