

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 15-111 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 pounds  
11 on a single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle with no axle  
12 within the tandem exceeding 20,000 pounds; 80,000 pounds gross  
13 weight for vehicle combinations of 5 or more axles; or a total  
14 weight on a group of 2 or more consecutive axles in excess of  
15 that weight produced by the application of the following  
16 formula:  $W = 500 \text{ times the sum of } (LN \text{ divided by } N-1) + 12N +$   
17  $36$ , where "W" equals overall total weight on any group of 2 or  
18 more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, "L" equals  
19 the distance measured to the nearest foot between extremes of  
20 any group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and "N" equals the  
21 number of axles in the group under consideration.

22 The above formula when expressed in tabular form results in  
23 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	38,000*	42,000			
14	9	39,000	42,500			
15	10	40,000	43,500			
16	11		44,000			
17	12		45,000	50,000		
18	13		45,500	50,500		
19	14		46,500	51,500		
20	15		47,000	52,000		
21	16		48,000	52,500	58,000	
22	17		48,500	53,500	58,500	
23	18		49,500	54,000	59,000	
24	19		50,000	54,500	60,000	
25	20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000

1	21	51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500
2	22	52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000
3	23	53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000
4	24	54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500
5	25	54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000
6	26	55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500
7	27	56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000
8	28	57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000
9	29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500
10	30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000
11	31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500
12	32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000
13	33		64,000	68,500	74,000
14	34		64,500	69,000	74,500
15	35		65,500	70,000	75,000
16	36		66,000	70,500	75,500
17	37		66,500	71,000	76,000
18	38		67,500	72,000	77,000
19	39		68,000	72,500	77,500
20	40		68,500	73,000	78,000
21	41		69,500	73,500	78,500
22	42		70,000	74,000	79,000
23	43		70,500	75,000	80,000
24	44		71,500	75,500	
25	45		72,000	76,000	
26	46		72,500	76,500	

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

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

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

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

22 Local authorities, with respect to streets and highways  
23 under their jurisdiction, without additional fees, may also by  
24 ordinance or resolution allow the weight limitations of this  
25 subsection, provided the maximum gross weight on any one axle  
26 shall not exceed 20,000 pounds and the maximum total weight on

1 any tandem axle shall not exceed 34,000 pounds, on designated  
2 highways when appropriate regulatory signs giving notice are  
3 erected upon the street or highway or portion of any street or  
4 highway affected by the ordinance or resolution.

5 The following are exceptions to the above formula:

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

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

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

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

25 (5) Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a  
26 total weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance

1 between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of  
2 tandem axles is 36 feet or more, notwithstanding the lower  
3 limit resulting from the application of the above formula.

4 (6) A truck, not in combination and used exclusively  
5 for the collection of rendering materials, may, when laden,  
6 transmit upon the road surface, except when on part of the  
7 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, the  
8 following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on a single axle;  
9 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle.

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

20 (7.5) A 3-axle rear discharge truck mixer registered as  
21 a Special Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing  
22 and transportation of concrete in the plastic state, may,  
23 when laden, transmit upon the road surface, except when on  
24 part of the National System of Interstate and Defense  
25 Highways, the following maximum weights: 22,000 pounds on  
26 single axle; 40,000 pounds on a tandem axle; 54,000 pounds

1 gross weight on a 3-axle vehicle. This vehicle is not  
2 subject to the bridge formula.

3 (8) Except as provided in paragraph (7.5) of this  
4 subsection (a), tandem axles on a 3-axle truck registered  
5 as a Special Hauling Vehicle, manufactured prior to or in  
6 the model year of 2024 and first registered in Illinois  
7 prior to January 1, 2025, with a distance greater than 72  
8 inches but not more than 96 inches between any series of 2  
9 axles, is allowed a combined weight on the series not to  
10 exceed 36,000 pounds and neither axle of the series may  
11 exceed 20,000 pounds. Any vehicle of this type manufactured  
12 after the model year of 2024 or first registered in  
13 Illinois after December 31, 2024 may not exceed a combined  
14 weight of 34,000 pounds through the series of 2 axles and  
15 neither axle of the series may exceed 20,000 pounds.

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

1           (9) A 4-axle truck mixer registered as a Special  
2 Hauling Vehicle, used exclusively for the mixing and  
3 transportation of concrete in the plastic state, ~~2024-2025~~  
4 and not operated on a highway that is part of the National  
5 System of Interstate Highways, is allowed the following  
6 maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on any single axle; 36,000  
7 pounds on a series of axles greater than 72 inches but not  
8 more than 96 inches; and 34,000 pounds on any series of 2  
9 axles greater than 40 inches but not more than 72 inches.  
10 The gross weight of this vehicle may not exceed the weights  
11 allowed by the bridge formula for 4 axles. The bridge  
12 formula does not apply to any series of 3 axles while the  
13 vehicle is transporting concrete in the plastic state, but  
14 no axle or tandem axle of the series may exceed the maximum  
15 weight permitted under this paragraph (9) of subsection  
16 (a).

17           (10) Combinations of vehicles, registered as Special  
18 Hauling Vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured  
19 prior to or in the model year of 2024, and registered in  
20 Illinois prior to January 1, 2025, having 5 axles with a  
21 distance of 42 feet or less between extreme axles, may not  
22 exceed the following maximum weights: 20,000 pounds on a  
23 single axle; 34,000 pounds on a tandem axle; and 72,000  
24 pounds gross weight. This combination of vehicles is not  
25 subject to the bridge formula. For all those combinations  
26 of vehicles that include a semitrailer manufactured after

1 the effective date of P.A. 92-0417, the overall distance  
2 between the first and last axles of the 2 sets of tandems  
3 must be 18 feet 6 inches or more. Any combination of  
4 vehicles that has had its cargo container replaced in its  
5 entirety after December 31, 2024 may not exceed the weights  
6 allowed by the bridge formula.

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

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

20 (i) is specifically designed as a tow truck having  
21 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000 pounds  
22 and is equipped with air brakes, provided that air  
23 brakes are required only if the towing vehicle is  
24 towing a vehicle, semitrailer, or tractor-trailer  
25 combination that is equipped with air brakes;

26 (ii) is equipped with flashing, rotating, or

1           oscillating amber lights, visible for at least 500 feet  
2           in all directions;

3           (iii) is capable of utilizing the lighting and  
4           braking systems of the disabled vehicle or combination  
5           of vehicles; and

6           (iv) does not engage in a tow exceeding 20 miles  
7           from the initial point of wreck or disablement. Any  
8           additional movement of the vehicles may occur only upon  
9           issuance of authorization for that movement under the  
10          provisions of Sections 15-301 through 15-319 of this  
11          Code. The towing vehicle, however, may tow any disabled  
12          vehicle to a point where repairs are actually to occur.  
13          This movement shall be valid only on State routes. The  
14          tower must abide by posted bridge weight limits.

15          (13) A vehicle or combination of vehicles that uses  
16          natural gas as a motor fuel may exceed the above weight  
17          limitations by 2,000 pounds except on interstate highways  
18          as defined by Section 1-133.1 of this Code. This paragraph  
19          (13) shall not allow a vehicle to exceed any posted weight  
20          limit on a highway or structure.

21          Gross weight limits shall not apply to the combination of  
22          the tow truck and vehicles being towed. The tow truck license  
23          plate must cover the operating empty weight of the tow truck  
24          only. The weight of each vehicle being towed shall be covered  
25          by a valid license plate issued to the owner or operator of the  
26          vehicle being towed and displayed on that vehicle. If no valid

1 plate issued to the owner or operator of that vehicle is  
2 displayed on that vehicle, or the plate displayed on that  
3 vehicle does not cover the weight of the vehicle, the weight of  
4 the vehicle shall be covered by the third tow truck plate  
5 issued to the owner or operator of the tow truck and  
6 temporarily affixed to the vehicle being towed. If a roll-back  
7 carrier is registered and being used as a tow truck, however,  
8 the license plate or plates for the tow truck must cover the  
9 gross vehicle weight, including any load carried on the bed of  
10 the roll-back carrier.

11 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe  
12 additional requirements. However, nothing in this Code shall  
13 prohibit a tow truck under instructions of a police officer  
14 from legally clearing a disabled vehicle, that may be in  
15 violation of weight limitations of this Chapter, from the  
16 roadway to the berm or shoulder of the highway. If in the  
17 opinion of the police officer that location is unsafe, the  
18 officer is authorized to have the disabled vehicle towed to the  
19 nearest place of safety.

20 For the purpose of this subsection, gross vehicle weight  
21 rating, or GVWR, means the value specified by the manufacturer  
22 as the loaded weight of the tow truck.

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

1           (c) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with  
2 pneumatic tires shall be operated, unladen or with load, upon  
3 the highways of this State in violation of the provisions of  
4 any permit issued under the provisions of Sections 15-301  
5 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

6           (d) No vehicle or combination of vehicles equipped with  
7 other than pneumatic tires may be operated, unladen or with  
8 load, upon the highways of this State when the gross weight on  
9 the road surface through any wheel exceeds 800 pounds per inch  
10 width of tire tread or when the gross weight on the road  
11 surface through any axle exceeds 16,000 pounds.

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

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

1 of vehicles over any structure with a gross weight that is  
2 greater than the posted maximum weight.

3 (g) Upon the trial of any person charged with a violation  
4 of subsection (e) or (f) of this Section, proof of the  
5 determination of the maximum allowable weight by the Department  
6 and the existence of the signs, constitutes conclusive evidence  
7 of the maximum weight that can be maintained with safety to the  
8 bridge or structure.

9 (Source: P.A. 97-201, eff. 1-1-12; 98-409, eff. 1-1-14; 98-410,  
10 eff. 8-16-13; revised 9-19-13.)