

1 AN ACT in relation to 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
5 changing Sections 15-102 and 15-107 as follows:

6 (625 ILCS 5/15-102) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-102)
7 Sec. 15-102. Width of Vehicles.

8 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Section or this
9 Code, the total outside width of any vehicle or load thereon
10 shall not exceed 8 feet.

11 (a-1) The total outside width of a recreational vehicle
12 as defined in Section 1-169 may exceed 8 feet 6 inches if the
13 excess width is attributable to appurtenances, including
14 retracted awnings, that extend no further than the exterior
15 rear view mirrors. The mirrors may extend only the distance
16 necessary to provide the required field of view before the
17 appurtenances were attached.

18 (b) Except during those times when, due to insufficient
19 light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, persons and
20 vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a
21 distance of 1000 feet, the following vehicles may exceed the
22 8 feet limitation during the period from a half hour before
23 sunrise to a half hour after sunset:

24 (1) Loads of hay, straw or other similar farm
25 products provided that the load is not more than 12 feet
26 wide.

27 (2) Implements of husbandry being transported on
28 another vehicle and the transporting vehicle while
29 loaded.

30 The following requirements apply to the
31 transportation on another vehicle of an implement of

1 husbandry wider than 8 feet 6 inches on the National
2 System of Interstate and Defense Highways or other
3 highways in the system of State highways:

4 (A) The driver of a vehicle transporting an
5 implement of husbandry that exceeds 8 feet 6 inches
6 in width shall obey all traffic laws and shall check
7 the roadways prior to making a movement in order to
8 ensure that adequate clearance is available for the
9 movement. It is prima facie evidence that the
10 driver of a vehicle transporting an implement of
11 husbandry has failed to check the roadway prior to
12 making a movement if the vehicle is involved in a
13 collision with a bridge, overpass, fixed structure,
14 or properly placed traffic control device or if the
15 vehicle blocks traffic due to its inability to
16 proceed because of a bridge, overpass, fixed
17 structure, or properly placed traffic control
18 device.

19 (B) Flags shall be displayed so as to wave
20 freely at the extremities of overwidth objects and
21 at the extreme ends of all protrusions, projections,
22 and overhangs. All flags shall be clean, bright red
23 flags with no advertising, wording, emblem, or
24 insignia inscribed upon them and at least 18 inches
25 square.

26 (C) "OVERSIZE LOAD" signs are mandatory on the
27 front and rear of all vehicles with loads over 10
28 feet wide. These signs must have 12-inch high black
29 letters with a 2-inch stroke on a yellow sign that
30 is 7 feet wide by 18 inches high.

31 (D) One civilian escort vehicle is required
32 for a load that exceeds 14 feet 6 inches in width
33 and 2 civilian escort vehicles are required for a
34 load that exceeds 16 feet in width on the National

1 System of Interstate and Defense Highways or other
2 highways in the system of State highways.

3 (E) The requirements for a civilian escort
4 vehicle and driver are as follows:

5 (1) The civilian escort vehicle shall be
6 a passenger car or a second division vehicle
7 not exceeding a gross vehicle weight of 8,000
8 pounds that is designed to afford clear and
9 unobstructed vision to both front and rear.

10 (2) The escort vehicle driver must be
11 properly licensed to operate the vehicle.

12 (3) While in use, the escort vehicle must
13 be equipped with illuminated rotating,
14 oscillating, or flashing amber lights or
15 flashing amber strobe lights mounted on top
16 that are of sufficient intensity to be visible
17 at 500 feet in normal sunlight.

18 (4) "OVERSIZE LOAD" signs are mandatory
19 on all escort vehicles. The sign on an escort
20 vehicle shall have 8-inch high black letters on
21 a yellow sign that is 5 feet wide by 12 inches
22 high.

23 (5) When only one escort vehicle is
24 required and it is operating on a two-lane
25 highway, the escort vehicle shall travel
26 approximately 300 feet ahead of the load. The
27 rotating, oscillating, or flashing lights or
28 flashing amber strobe lights and an "OVERSIZE
29 LOAD" sign shall be displayed on the escort
30 vehicle and shall be visible from the front.
31 When only one escort vehicle is required and it
32 is operating on a multilane divided highway,
33 the escort vehicle shall travel approximately
34 300 feet behind the load and the sign and

1 lights shall be visible from the rear.

2 (6) When 2 escort vehicles are required,
3 one escort shall travel approximately 300 feet
4 ahead of the load and the second escort shall
5 travel approximately 300 feet behind the load.
6 The rotating, oscillating, or flashing lights
7 or flashing amber strobe lights and an
8 "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign shall be displayed on the
9 escort vehicles and shall be visible from the
10 front on the lead escort and from the rear on
11 the trailing escort.

12 (7) When traveling within the corporate
13 limits of a municipality, the escort vehicle
14 shall maintain a reasonable and proper distance
15 from the oversize load, consistent with
16 existing traffic conditions.

17 (8) A separate escort shall be provided
18 for each load hauled.

19 (9) The driver of an escort vehicle shall
20 obey all traffic laws.

21 (10) The escort vehicle must be in safe
22 operational condition.

23 (11) The driver of the escort vehicle
24 must be in radio contact with the driver of the
25 vehicle carrying the oversize load.

26 (F) A transport vehicle while under load of
27 more than 8 feet 6 inches in width must be equipped
28 with an illuminated rotating, oscillating, or
29 flashing amber light or lights or a flashing amber
30 strobe light or lights mounted on the top of the cab
31 that are of sufficient intensity to be visible at
32 500 feet in normal sunlight. If the load on the
33 transport vehicle blocks the visibility of the amber
34 lighting from the rear of the vehicle, the vehicle

1 must also be equipped with an illuminated rotating,
2 oscillating, or flashing amber light or lights or a
3 flashing amber strobe light or lights mounted on the
4 rear of the load that are of sufficient intensity to
5 be visible at 500 feet in normal sunlight.

6 (G) When a flashing amber light is required on
7 the transport vehicle under load and it is operating
8 on a two-lane highway, the transport vehicle shall
9 display to the rear at least one rotating,
10 oscillating, or flashing light or a flashing amber
11 strobe light and an "OVERSIZE LOAD" sign. When a
12 flashing amber light is required on the transport
13 vehicle under load and it is operating on a
14 multilane divided highway, the sign and light shall
15 be visible from the rear.

16 (H) Maximum speed shall be 45 miles per hour
17 on all such moves or 5 miles per hour above the
18 posted minimum speed limit, whichever is greater,
19 but the vehicle shall not at any time exceed the
20 posted maximum speed limit.

21 (3) Portable buildings designed and used for
22 agricultural and livestock raising operations that are
23 not more than 14 feet wide and with not more than a 1
24 foot overhang along the left side of the hauling vehicle.
25 However, the buildings shall not be transported more than
26 10 miles and not on any route that is part of the
27 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways.

28 All buildings when being transported shall display at
29 least 2 red cloth flags, not less than 12 inches square,
30 mounted as high as practicable on the left and right side of
31 the building.

32 A State Police escort shall be required if it is
33 necessary for this load to use part of the left lane when
34 crossing any 2 laned State highway bridge.

1 (c) Vehicles propelled by electric power obtained from
2 overhead trolley wires operated wholly within the corporate
3 limits of a municipality are also exempt from the width
4 limitation.

5 (d) Exemptions are also granted to vehicles designed for
6 the carrying of more than 10 persons under the following
7 conditions:

8 (1) (Blank);

9 (2) When operated within any public transportation
10 service with the approval of local authorities or an
11 appropriate public body authorized by law to provide
12 public transportation. Any vehicle so operated may be 8
13 feet 6 inches in width; or

14 (3) When a county engineer or superintendent of
15 highways, after giving due consideration to the mass
16 transportation needs of the area and to the width and
17 condition of the road, has determined that the operation
18 of buses wider than 8 feet will not pose an undue safety
19 hazard on a particular county or township road segment,
20 he or she may authorize buses not to exceed 8 feet 6
21 inches in width on any highway under that engineer's or
22 superintendent's jurisdiction.

23 (e) A vehicle and load traveling upon the National
24 System of Interstate and Defense Highways or any other
25 highway in the system of State highways that has been
26 designated as a Class I or Class II highway by the
27 Department, or any street or highway designated by local
28 authorities or road district commissioners, may have a total
29 outside width of 8 feet 6 inches, provided that certain
30 safety devices that the Department determines as necessary
31 for the safe and efficient operation of motor vehicles shall
32 not be included in the calculation of width.

33 Vehicles operating under this paragraph (e) shall have
34 access for a distance of one highway mile to or from a Class

1 I highway on any street or highway, unless there is a sign
2 prohibiting the access, or 5 highway miles to or from a Class
3 I or II highway on a street or highway included in the system
4 of State highways and upon any street or highway designated
5 by local authorities or road district commissioners, without
6 additional fees, to points of loading and unloading and to
7 facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest. In addition, any
8 trailer or semitrailer not exceeding 28 feet 6 inches in
9 length, that was originally in combination with a truck
10 tractor, and all household goods carriers, when operating
11 under paragraph (e), shall have access to points of loading
12 and unloading.

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

16 (f) Mirrors required by Section 12-502 of this Code and
17 other safety devices identified by the Department may project
18 up to 14 inches beyond each side of a bus and up to 6 inches
19 beyond each side of any other vehicle, and that projection
20 shall not be deemed a violation of the width restrictions of
21 this Section.

22 (g) Any person who is convicted of violating this
23 Section is subject to the penalty as provided in paragraph
24 (b) of Section 15-113.

25 (Source: P.A. 90-14, eff. 7-1-97; 91-780, eff. 6-9-00.)

26 (625 ILCS 5/15-107) (from Ch. 95 1/2, par. 15-107)

27 Sec. 15-107. Length of vehicles.

28 (a) Unless otherwise provided for in this Code, no
29 single vehicle, with or without load, other than a
30 semitrailer that is not a housetrailer, shall exceed an
31 overall length of 42 feet.

32 (a-1) A motor home as defined in Section 1-145.01 may be
33 up to 45 feet in length, not including energy absorbing

1 bumpers. The length limitations described in this subsection
2 (a-1) shall be exclusive of energy-absorbing bumpers and rear
3 view mirrors.

4 (b) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (f) and
5 unless otherwise provided in this Code, no truck tractor and
6 semitrailer, unladen or with load, except a semitrailer other
7 than a house trailer, shall exceed a length of 55 feet
8 extreme overall dimension, except that the combination when
9 specially designed to transport motor vehicles may have a
10 length of 60 feet extreme overall dimension, subject to those
11 exceptions and special rules otherwise stated in this Code.
12 No other combination of vehicles, unladen or with load, shall
13 exceed a length of 60 feet extreme overall dimension.

14 (c) A truck tractor semitrailer may draw one trailer, or
15 a converter dolly, or a vehicle that is special mobile
16 equipment if the extreme length of the combination does not
17 exceed 60 feet, and a truck in transit may draw 3 trucks in
18 transit coupled together by the triple saddlemount method.
19 Except as otherwise provided, no other combinations of
20 vehicles coupled together shall consist of more than 2
21 vehicles. For the purposes of this paragraph, a tow-dolly
22 that merely serves as substitute wheels for another legally
23 licensed vehicle will be considered part of the vehicle and
24 not as a separate vehicle.

25 Vehicles in combination, whether being operated
26 intrastate or interstate, shall be operated and towed in
27 compliance with all requirements of Federal Highway
28 Administration, Title 49, C. F. R., Motor Carrier Safety
29 Regulations, pertaining to coupling devices and towing
30 methods and all other equipment safety requirements set forth
31 in the regulations.

32 (c-1) A recreational vehicle as defined in Section 1-169
33 may tow another vehicle if the total length of the
34 combination of vehicles does not exceed 65 feet. The length

1 limitations described in this subsection (c-1) shall be
2 exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices, such as
3 rear view mirrors, turn signals, marker lamps, steps and
4 handholds for entry and egress, flexible fender extensions,
5 bumpers, mudflaps and splash and spray suppressant devices,
6 load-induced tire bulge, refrigeration units or air
7 compressors and other devices, that the Department may
8 interpret as necessary for safe and efficient operation;
9 except that no device excluded under this subsection (c-1)
10 shall have by its design or use the capability to carry
11 cargo.

12 (d) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Code,
13 there is no overall length limitation on motor vehicles
14 operating in truck tractor-semitrailer or truck
15 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combinations, except that
16 maxi-cube combinations as defined in this Section, and a
17 combination of vehicles specifically designed to transport
18 motor vehicles or boats, shall not exceed 65 feet overall
19 length, and provided that a stinger steered combination of
20 vehicles specifically designed to transport motor vehicles or
21 boats and a truck in transit transporting 3 trucks coupled
22 together by the triple saddlemount method shall not exceed 75
23 feet overall length, with the length limitations inclusive of
24 front and rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the
25 transported vehicles as provided for in paragraph (i) of this
26 Section, upon the National System of Interstate and Defense
27 Highways or any other highways in the system of State
28 highways that have been designated Class I highways by the
29 Department or any street or highway designated by local
30 authorities or road district commissioners; provided that the
31 length of the semitrailer unit, unladen or with load,
32 operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination shall not
33 exceed 53 feet and the distance between the kingpin and the
34 center of the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet

1 shall not exceed 45 feet, 6 inches; and provided that the
2 length of any semitrailer or trailer, unladen or with load,
3 operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination
4 shall not exceed 28 feet 6 inches.

5 The length limitations described in this paragraph (d)
6 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,
7 such as rear view mirrors, turn signals, marker lamps, steps
8 and handholds for entry and egress, flexible fender
9 extensions, bumpers, mudflaps and splash and spray
10 suppressant devices, load-induced tire bulge, refrigeration
11 units or air compressors and other devices, that the
12 Department may interpret as necessary for safe and efficient
13 operation; except that no device excluded under this
14 paragraph shall have by its design or use the capability to
15 carry cargo.

16 Vehicles operating under this paragraph (d) shall have
17 access for a distance of one highway mile to or from a Class
18 I highway on any street or highway, unless there is a sign
19 prohibiting the access, or 5 highway miles on a street or
20 highway in the system of State highways, and upon any street
21 or highway designated, without additional fees, by local
22 authorities or road district commissioners, to points of
23 loading and unloading and facilities for food, fuel, repairs
24 and rest. Household goods carriers shall have access to
25 points of loading and unloading.

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

29 (e) In addition to the designation of highways under
30 paragraph (d) the Department may designate other streets or
31 highways in the system of State highways as Class II
32 highways. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Code,
33 effective June 1, 1996 there is no overall length limitation
34 on motor vehicles operating in truck tractor-semitrailer

1 combinations operating upon designated Class II highways,
2 provided the length of the semitrailer unit, unladen or with
3 load, operated in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination
4 shall not exceed 53 feet and the distance between the kingpin
5 and the center of the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than
6 48 feet shall not exceed 45 feet, 6 inches. A truck
7 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination may be operated
8 provided that the wheelbase between the front axle and rear
9 axle shall not exceed 65 feet and the length of any
10 semitrailer or trailer, unladen or with load, in a
11 combination shall not exceed 28 feet 6 inches. Local
12 authorities and road district commissioners with respect to
13 streets and highways under their jurisdiction, may also by
14 ordinance or resolution allow the length limitations of this
15 paragraph (e).

16 A maxi-cube combination, a truck in transit transporting
17 3 trucks coupled together by the triple saddlemount method,
18 and a combination of vehicles specifically designed to
19 transport motor vehicles or boats may operate on the
20 designated streets or highways provided the overall length
21 shall not exceed 65 feet, and provided that a stinger steered
22 combination of vehicles specifically designed to transport
23 motor vehicles or boats shall not exceed 75 feet overall
24 length, with the length limitations inclusive of front and
25 rear bumpers but exclusive of the overhang of the transported
26 vehicles as provided for in paragraph (i) of this Section.

27 The length limitations described in this paragraph (e)
28 shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,
29 such as rear view mirrors, turn signals, marker lamps, steps
30 and handholds for entry and egress, flexible fender
31 extensions, bumpers, mudflaps and splash and spray
32 suppressant devices, load-induced tire bulge, refrigeration
33 units or air compressors and other devices, that the
34 Department may interpret as necessary for safe and efficient

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

4 Vehicles operating under this paragraph (e) shall have
5 access for a distance of 5 highway miles on a street or
6 highway in the system of State highways, and upon any street
7 or highway designated by local authorities or road district
8 commissioners, to points of loading and unloading and to
9 facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest. Household goods
10 carriers shall have access to points of loading and
11 unloading.

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

15 (f) On any street or highway in the system of State
16 highways that has not been designated by the Department under
17 paragraph (d) or (e), the wheelbase between the front axle
18 and the rear axle in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination
19 shall not exceed 55 feet or, effective June 1, 1996, no truck
20 tractor and semitrailer, unladen or with load, except a
21 semitrailer other than a house trailer, shall exceed a length
22 of 65 feet between extreme overall dimensions, the length of
23 the semitrailer, unladen or with load, shall not exceed 53
24 feet and the distance between the kingpin and the center of
25 the rear axle of a semitrailer longer than 48 feet shall not
26 exceed 42 feet, 6 inches. On any street or highway in the
27 State system of highways that has not been designated by the
28 Department under paragraph (d) or (e), no truck
29 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination shall exceed a length
30 of 60 feet extreme overall dimension.

31 (g) Length limitations in the preceding subsections of
32 this Section 15-107 shall not apply to vehicles operated in
33 the daytime, except on Saturdays, Sundays or legal holidays,
34 when transporting poles, pipe, machinery or other objects of

1 a structural nature that cannot readily be dismembered, nor
2 to vehicles transporting those objects operated on Saturdays,
3 Sundays or legal holidays or at nighttime by a public utility
4 when required for emergency repair of public service
5 facilities or properties, but in respect to the night
6 operation every vehicle and the load thereon shall be
7 equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both
8 sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any
9 projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load,
10 provided that the overall length of vehicle and load shall
11 not exceed 100 feet and no object exceeding 80 feet in length
12 shall be transported, except by a public utility when
13 required for emergency repairs, unless a permit has first
14 been obtained as authorized in Section 15-301. A combination
15 of vehicles, including a tow truck and a disabled vehicle or
16 disabled combination of vehicles, that exceeds the length
17 restriction imposed by this Code, may be operated on a public
18 highway in this State upon the following conditions:

- 19 (1) The towing vehicle must be:
- 20 a. specifically designed as a tow truck having
21 a gross vehicle weight rating of at least 18,000
22 lbs. and equipped with air brakes;
- 23 b. equipped with flashing, rotating or
24 oscillating amber lights, visible for a least 500
25 feet in all directions; and
- 26 c. capable of utilizing the lighting and
27 braking systems of the disabled vehicle or
28 combination of vehicles.

29 (2) The towing of vehicles on the highways of this
30 State shall not exceed 50 miles from the initial point of
31 wreck or disablement. Any additional movement of the
32 vehicles shall only occur upon issuance of authorization
33 for that movement under the provisions of Section 15-301
34 through 15-319 of this Chapter.

1 The Department may by rule or regulation prescribe
2 additional requirements regarding length limitations for a
3 tow truck towing another vehicle.

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. Legal
7 holidays referred to in this Section shall be specified as
8 the day on which the following traditional holidays are
9 celebrated:

- 10 New Year's Day;
- 11 Memorial Day;
- 12 Independence Day;
- 13 Labor Day;
- 14 Thanksgiving Day; and
- 15 Christmas Day.

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

32 (i) The load upon the front vehicle of a combination of
33 vehicles specifically designed to transport motor vehicles
34 shall not extend more than 3 feet beyond the foremost part of

1 the transporting vehicle and the load upon the rear
 2 transporting vehicle shall not extend more than 4 feet beyond
 3 the rear of the bed or body of the vehicle. This paragraph
 4 shall only be applicable upon highways designated in
 5 paragraphs (d) and (e) of this Section.

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

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

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

18 (j-1) Charter or regulated route buses may be up to 45
 19 feet in length, not including energy absorbing bumpers.

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

23 (l) A combination of 3 vehicles not to exceed 60 feet
 24 overall length may be operated on the highways of the State,
 25 provided that the vehicles meet the following requirements:

26 (1) The towing vehicle is a properly registered
 27 vehicle capable of towing another vehicle using a
 28 fifth-wheel type assembly.

29 (2) The second vehicle in the combination of
 30 vehicles shall be a recreational vehicle that is towed by
 31 a fifth-wheel assembly. This vehicle shall be properly
 32 registered and be equipped with brakes regardless of
 33 weight.

34 (3) The third vehicle shall be the lightest of the

1 3 vehicles and be a trailer or semi-trailer designed or
2 used for transporting a boat, all-terrain vehicle,
3 personal watercraft, or motorcycle.

4 (4) The towed vehicles may only be for the use of
5 the operator of the towing vehicle.

6 (5) All vehicles shall be properly equipped with
7 operating brakes and safety equipment required by this
8 Code, except the additional brake requirement in
9 paragraph (2) above.

10 (Source: P.A. 89-219, eff. 1-1-96; 89-434, eff. 6-1-96;
11 89-626, eff. 8-9-96; 90-89, eff. 1-1-98; 90-147, eff.
12 7-23-97; 90-407, eff. 8-15-97; 90-655, eff. 7-30-98.)