WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1985

ENROLLED
SENATE BILL NO. 463

(By Mr. Tomblin)

PASSED April 11, 1985
In Effect ninety days from Passage
ENROLLED
Senate Bill No. 463
(By Mr. Tomblin)
[Passed April 11, 1985; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections four and eleven-b, article seventeen, chapter seventeen-c of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, relating to the height and weight of vehicles and loads; length of combination vehicles permitted.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That sections four and eleven-b, article seventeen, chapter seventeen-c of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 17. SIZE, WEIGHT AND LOAD.

§17C-17-4. Height and length of vehicles and loads.

1 (a) A vehicle including any load thereon shall not exceed a height of thirteen feet six inches, but the owner or owners of such vehicles shall be responsible for damage to any bridge or highway structure and to municipalities for any damage to traffic control devices or other highway structures where such bridges, devices or structures have a vehicle clearance of less than thirteen feet six inches.

2 (b) A motor vehicle including any load thereon shall not
9 exceed a length of forty feet extreme overall dimension, inclusive of front and rear bumpers.
10 (c) Except as hereinafter provided, a combination of vehicles coupled together shall not consist of more than two units, and no such combination of vehicles including any load thereon shall have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of fifty-five feet, except as provided in section eleven-b of this article, and except as otherwise provided in respect to the use of a pole trailer as authorized in section five of this article: Provided, That the limitation that a combination of vehicles coupled together shall not consist of more than two units shall not apply to a combination of vehicles coupled together by a saddle mount device used to transport motor vehicles in a drive-away service when no more than three saddle mounts are used: Provided, however, That equipment used in said combination meets the requirements of the safety regulations of the United States department of transportation and shall not exceed an overall length of more than sixty-five feet.
19 (d) The length limitations for truck tractor-semitrailer combinations and truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combinations operating on the national system of interstate and defense highways and those classes of qualifying federal-aid primary system highways so designated by the United States secretary of transportation, and those highways providing reasonable access to and from terminals, facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest, and points of loading and unloading for household goods carriers from such highways, and further, as to other highways so designated by the West Virginia commissioner of highways, shall be as follows: The maximum length of a semitrailer unit operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination shall not exceed forty-eight feet in length and the maximum length of any semitrailer or trailer operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination shall not exceed twenty-eight feet in length and in no event shall any combinations exceed three units, including the truck tractor: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall impose an overall length limitation as to commercial motor vehicles operating in truck tractor-semitrailer or truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combinations.
§17C-17-11b. Authority of state road commissioner to increase length limitations upon highways designated by him.

1 If, in the opinion of the commissioner of the department of highways, the design, construction and safety of any highway, or portion thereof, are such that the length limitations prescribed in section four (c) of this article can be increased without undue risk of damage to other vehicles lawfully using such highway or portion thereof, to bridges or other road structures, and to municipal and utility company facilities, wires, traffic devices or other structures, the commissioner may, by order, increase the length limitations of vehicles which may be operated upon any such highway, or portion thereof, designated by him in such order and may establish therein the maximum length limitations which shall thereafter be applicable to the highway or portion thereof so designated by him: Provided, That the maximum length of any combination of vehicles including any load thereon shall not exceed sixty feet, except as otherwise provided in this article with respect to the size of vehicles: Provided, however, That no such order of the commissioner shall establish any height or length limitation in excess of or in conflict with any height or length limitation prescribed by or pursuant to acts of Congress with respect to the national system of interstate defense highways.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker House of Delegates

The within... approved this the 22nd day of April, 1985.

Governor
PRESENTED TO THE
GOVERNOR
Date 4/17/85
Time 4:05 p.m.