

W. 463

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WEST VIRGINIA

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION, 1985



ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 463

(By Mr. Jomblin)



PASSED April 11 1985

In Effect ninety days from Passage



## **ENROLLED**

### **Senate Bill No. 463**

(BY MR. TOMBLIN)

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[Passed April 11, 1985; in effect ninety days from passage.]

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

9 exceed a length of forty feet extreme overall dimension,  
10 inclusive of front and rear bumpers.

11 (c) Except as hereinafter provided, a combination of  
12 vehicles coupled together shall not consist of more than two  
13 units, and no such combination of vehicles including any  
14 load thereon shall have an overall length, inclusive of front  
15 and rear bumpers, in excess of fifty-five feet, except as  
16 provided in section eleven-b of this article, and except as  
17 otherwise provided in respect to the use of a pole trailer as  
18 authorized in section five of this article: *Provided*, That the  
19 limitation that a combination of vehicles coupled together  
20 shall not consist of more than two units shall not apply to a  
21 combination of vehicles coupled together by a saddle mount  
22 device used to transport motor vehicles in a drive-away  
23 service when no more than three saddle mounts are used:  
24 *Provided, however*, That equipment used in said  
25 combination meets the requirements of the safety  
26 regulations of the United States department of  
27 transportation and shall not exceed an overall length of  
28 more than sixty-five feet.

29 (d) The length limitations for truck tractor-semitrailer  
30 combinations and truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer  
31 combinations operating on the national system of interstate  
32 and defense highways and those classes of qualifying  
33 federal-aid primary system highways so designated by the  
34 United States secretary of transportation, and those  
35 highways providing reasonable access to and from  
36 terminals, facilities for food, fuel, repairs and rest, and  
37 points of loading and unloading for household goods  
38 carriers from such highways, and further, as to other  
39 highways so designated by the West Virginia commissioner  
40 of highways, shall be as follows: The maximum length of a  
41 semitrailer unit operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer  
42 combination shall not exceed forty-eight feet in length and  
43 the maximum length of any semitrailer or trailer operating  
44 in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination shall not  
45 exceed twenty-eight feet in length and in no event shall any  
46 combinations exceed three units, including the truck  
47 tractor: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall  
48 impose an overall length limitation as to commercial motor  
49 vehicles operating in truck tractor-semitrailer or truck  
50 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  
2 of highways, the design, construction and safety of any  
3 highway, or portion thereof, are such that the length  
4 limitations prescribed in section four (c) of this article can  
5 be increased without undue risk of damage to other vehicles  
6 lawfully using such highway or portion thereof, to bridges  
7 or other road structures, and to municipal and utility  
8 company facilities, wires, traffic devices or other  
9 structures, the commissioner may, by order, increase the  
10 length limitations of vehicles which may be operated upon  
11 any such highway, or portion thereof, designated by him in  
12 such order and may establish therein the maximum length  
13 limitations which shall thereafter be applicable to the  
14 highway or portion thereof so designated by him: *Provided,*  
15 That the maximum length of any combination of vehicles  
16 including any load thereon shall not exceed sixty feet,  
17 except as otherwise provided in this article with respect to  
18 the size of vehicles: *Provided, however,* That no such order  
19 of the commissioner shall establish any height or length  
20 limitation in excess of or in conflict with any height or  
21 length limitation prescribed by or pursuant to acts of  
22 Congress with respect to the national system of interstate  
23 defense highways.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

*Blaine O. Williams*  
.....  
Chairman Senate Committee

*Floyd Fuller*  
.....  
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

*John C. Hicks*  
.....  
Clerk of the Senate

*Donald L. Kopp*  
.....  
Clerk of the House of Delegates

*Sam Tankership*  
.....  
President of the Senate

*Joseph Palbright*  
.....  
Speaker House of Delegates

The within *approved* this the *22<sup>nd</sup>*  
day of *April*, 1985.

*Arha Shaare Jr.*  
.....  
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE  
GOVERNOR

Date 4/17/85

Time 4:05 p.m.