
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1699 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY MARSHALL, D. COSTA, JAMES, SANKEY, WHEELAND AND
ZIMMERMAN, AUGUST 15, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, AUGUST 15, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in size, weight and load, further providing for
3 operation of certain combinations on interstate and certain
4 other highways, repealing provisions relating to operation of
5 motor homes on interstate and certain other highways and
6 further providing for width of vehicles and for length of
7 vehicles.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 4908(a) introductory paragraph, (b),
11 (b.1) and (g) of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
12 Statutes are amended to read:

13 § 4908. Operation of certain combinations on interstate and
14 certain other highways.

15 (a) General rule.--Combinations authorized by section
16 4904(e) (relating to limits on number of towed vehicles) to have
17 two trailers[, or by section 4923(b)(6) or (7) (relating to
18 length of vehicles) to exceed the length limitation for
19 combinations,] may be driven only on the types of highways and
20 under the limitations set forth below:

1 * * *

2 (b) Household goods carriers.--In addition to the operations
3 authorized in subsection (a), a household goods carrier,
4 consisting of a truck tractor and [either of the following:

5 (1) A single trailer, which exceeds the maximum length
6 for combinations established in section 4923(a), may be
7 driven between the designated network and a point of loading
8 or unloading which can safely and reasonably be accessed.

9 (2) Two] two trailers may be driven between the
10 designated national network and a point of loading or
11 unloading which can safely and reasonably be accessed using
12 highways approved under subsection (a)(2) through (5) for the
13 particular movement.

14 [(b.1) Short 102-inch trailers.--In addition to the
15 operations authorized in subsection (a), a combination,
16 consisting of a truck tractor and a single trailer not exceeding
17 28 1/2 feet in length and 102 inches in width may be driven on
18 all highways.]

19 * * *

20 (g) Penalty.--A person who operates a combination in
21 violation of this section on a highway which is not marked with
22 signs prohibiting the operation of such a combination commits a
23 summary offense and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay
24 a fine of \$50 for each violation. A person cited under this
25 subsection shall not be subject to citation under section [4921
26 (relating to width of vehicles) or 4923 (relating to length of
27 vehicles)] 4904 (relating to limits on number of towed
28 vehicles).

29 Section 2. Section 4908.1 of Title 75 is repealed:

30 [§ 4908.1. Operation of motor homes on interstate and certain

1 other highways.

2 (a) General rule.--Motor homes exceeding 40 feet in length
3 but not exceeding 45 feet in length may be driven only on the
4 types of highways and under the limitations set forth below:

5 (1) On a designated network consisting of all interstate
6 highways and portions of Federal aid primary highways having
7 at least a 48-foot-wide roadway or two 24-foot-wide roadways
8 and designated by the department as capable of safely
9 accommodating motor homes.

10 (2) Between the designated national network and:

11 (i) The location where the motor home is garaged.

12 (ii) A facility for food, fuel, repair, service or
13 rest having an entrance within the access limitation
14 prescribed under Federal Highway Administration
15 regulation of the nearest ramp or intersection, but only
16 on highways having lanes at least ten feet wide.

17 (3) On highways marked with traffic route signs having
18 travel lanes at least ten feet in width unless prohibited by
19 the department on State highways or the municipality on local
20 highways based on safety reasons and marked with signs
21 prohibiting such vehicles.

22 (4) Between the highways authorized under paragraph (3)
23 and:

24 (i) The location where the recreational vehicle is
25 garaged.

26 (ii) A terminal or facility for food, fuel, repair,
27 service or rest having an entrance within two miles of
28 the nearest ramp or intersection, but only on highways
29 having lanes at least ten feet wide.

30 (5) Approval of a highway other than as designated under

paragraphs (1) through (4) shall be obtained from the:

(i) City in the case of a highway in a city.

(ii) Department in the case of a State highway not in a city, except that the department will, upon request, delegate authority to approve routes under this subsection to a municipality which has been delegated authority to issue permits under section 420 of the act of June 1, 1945 (P.L.1242, No.428), known as the State Highway Law.

(iii) Municipality in the case of a local highway not in a city.

(b) Notice.--Notice regarding approval and revocation of routes shall be in conformance with section 4908 (relating to operation of certain combinations on interstate and certain other highways).]

Section 3. Sections 4921(a), (c), (c.1), (c.2), (c.3) and (d) and 4923(b.1) of Title 75 are amended and the sections are amended by adding subsections to read:

§ 4921. Width of vehicles.

(a) General rule.--The total outside width of a vehicle, including any load, shall not exceed eight feet six inches except as otherwise provided in this section. [With regard to stinger-steered automobile or boat transporters or vehicles operating as provided in section 4908 (relating to operation of certain combinations on interstate and certain other highways), the total width of a vehicle, including any load, shall not exceed eight and one-half feet, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.]

* * *

[(c) Buses.--Any bus operated wholly within a municipality,

1 where permitted by the municipality, or in more than one
2 municipality, where approved by the Public Utility Commission,
3 may have a total outside width not to exceed eight feet six
4 inches when operated upon a highway having traffic-lane widths
5 of not less than ten feet.

6 (c.1) Motor homes or recreational trailers.--Any motor home
7 or recreational trailer may have a total outside width not to
8 exceed eight feet six inches.

9 (c.2) Utility trailers.--A utility trailer with a registered
10 gross weight not to exceed 10,000 pounds may have a total
11 outside width not to exceed eight feet six inches.

12 (c.3) Trucks other than combinations.--The total outside
13 width, including any load, of a truck other than a combination
14 shall not exceed eight and one-half feet except as otherwise
15 provided in this chapter.

16 (d) Nondivisible loads.--Vehicles carrying nondivisible
17 loads not exceeding eight feet six inches in width may operate
18 on any highway having a roadway width of 20 feet or more.]

19 * * *

20 (e.2) Excluded devices.--Devices listed in and meeting the
21 requirements of 23 CFR Pt. 658 Appendix D (relating to devices
22 that are excluded from measurement of the length or width of a
23 commercial motor vehicle) are excluded from measurement of the
24 width of a motor vehicle.

25 * * *

26 Section 4. Section 4923(b.1) of Title 75 is amended to read:
27 § 4923. Length of vehicles.

28 * * *

29 (b) Excluded devices.--Devices listed in and meeting the
30 requirements of 23 CFR Pt. 658 Appendix D (relating to devices

1 that are excluded from measurement of the length or width of a
2 commercial Motor Vehicle) are excluded from measurement of the
3 length of a motor vehicle.

4 (b.1) Combinations.--

5 (1) The length of a single trailer being towed by a
6 truck tractor shall not exceed 53 feet [provided]. Truck or
7 truck tractors towing trailers equipped with a kingpin shall
8 not be operated when the distance between the kingpin and the
9 center line of the rear axle or rear axle group [does not
10 exceed] exceeds 41 feet or, in the case of a trailer used
11 exclusively or primarily to transport vehicles in connection
12 with motor sports competition events, does not exceed 46
13 feet.

14 * * *

15 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.