
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 214 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY TOMLINSON, MARTIN AND J. WARD, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, FEBRUARY 11, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in size, weight and load, further providing for
3 limits on number of towed vehicles, for length of vehicles
4 and for application to tow trucks.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 4904(c)(2), 4923(b.1)(7) and 4949 of
8 Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended
9 to read:

10 § 4904. Limits on number of towed vehicles.

11 * * *

12 (c) Towing vehicles requiring service.--

13 * * *

14 (2) A combination [requiring emergency service may be
15 towed to a nearby garage or other place of safety.]
16 consisting of any tow truck towing a disabled motor vehicle
17 or a combination of a truck, a truck tractor or not more than
18 two trailers may be towed as provided in section 4949
19 (relating to application to tow trucks).

1 * * *

2 § 4923. Length of vehicles.

3 * * *

4 (b.1) Combinations.--

5 * * *

6 (7) A combination consisting of any tow truck towing a
7 disabled motor vehicle [to a place of repairs or other place
8 of safety.] or a combination of a truck, a truck tractor or
9 not more than two trailers may be towed as provided in
10 section 4949 (relating to application to tow trucks).

11 * * *

12 § 4949. Application to tow trucks.

13 [The weight restrictions set forth in this subchapter do not
14 apply to a combination consisting of any tow truck towing a
15 disabled motor vehicle to a place of repairs or other place of
16 safety as long as the overweight combination travels directly to
17 the first available such location and the movement is performed
18 at the direction of authorized emergency personnel or a
19 qualified Commonwealth employee.]

20 (a) Towing length restrictions.--A combination consisting of
21 any tow truck towing a combination of a truck, a truck tractor
22 or not more than two trailers shall not exceed 150 feet when
23 traveling in combination.

24 (b) Towing weight restrictions.--The weight restrictions
25 provided in this subchapter do not apply to a combination
26 consisting of any tow truck towing a disabled motor vehicle or a
27 combination consisting of any tow truck towing a combination of
28 a truck, a truck tractor or not more than two trailers to a
29 place of repairs as long as:

30 (1) The oversized combination travels on the same route

1 as prescribed by the permit.

2 (2) The tow truck operator obeys all applicable road and
3 bridge weight restrictions.

4 (c) Towing distance restrictions.--A combination consisting
5 of any tow truck towing a combination of a truck, a truck
6 tractor or not more than two trailers shall only tow a disabled
7 motor vehicle to an appropriate place of repairs that is within
8 75 miles of the point of disability.

9 (d) Failure to meet restrictions.--At any time, if a tow
10 truck operator cannot meet all the requirements of this section,
11 the tow truck operator shall report the incident to authorized
12 emergency personnel or a qualified employee of the Commonwealth.
13 An emergency plan to remove the disabled motor vehicle shall be
14 developed and approved by the department within 24 hours of the
15 initial report.

16 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.