

By: Senator(s) Sparks, Tate, McCaughn,
Parks, DeBar, Whaley, Branning, Suber

To: Forestry; Highways and
Transportation

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 2519

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS 63-5-19 AND 63-7-47, MISSISSIPPI
2 CODE OF 1972, TO CLARIFY PROVISIONS REGARDING ILLUMINATION OF
3 LOADS EXTENDING BEYOND THE REAR OF VEHICLES; AND FOR RELATED
4 PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-5-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
7 amended as follows:

8 63-5-19. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
9 no single vehicle, unladen or with load, shall have an overall
10 length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of forty
11 (40) feet.

12 (2) No semitrailer operating in a truck tractor-semitrailer
13 combination and no trailer drawn by a motor vehicle shall exceed a
14 length of fifty-three (53) feet.

15 (3) No semitrailer or trailer operating in a truck
16 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination and no trailer operating
17 in a double trailer combination drawn by a motor vehicle shall
18 exceed a length of thirty (30) feet.



19 (4) No semitrailer or trailer combinations in excess of two
20 (2) units, excluding the towing motor vehicle, shall be allowed to
21 operate on the highways of this state.

22 (5) No motor home shall have an overall length exclusive of
23 front and rear bumpers, in excess of forty-five (45) feet.

24 (6) The load upon the rear vehicle of a combination of
25 vehicles transporting forest or agricultural products in their
26 natural state shall not project more than twenty-eight (28) feet
27 beyond the rear axle of the vehicle except in the special
28 circumstance hereinafter prescribed. If such products project
29 more than twenty-eight (28) feet beyond the rear axle and, due to
30 the end use for which they are intended (such as tall utility
31 poles or light poles or the like), such products cannot be
32 shortened without rendering them useless for the finished product
33 for which they have been cut, then such special circumstance may
34 be considered good cause for the obtaining of a permit which shall
35 be procured pursuant to Section 63-5-51 before vehicles
36 transporting such products may operate. Except as otherwise
37 provided in Section 63-5-21 or 63-7-47(2), any vehicle
38 transporting projecting loads as described in this subsection that
39 extend four (4) feet or more beyond the rear or body of the
40 vehicle shall operate only during daylight hours, and the load on
41 vehicles designed to transport forestry products shall be secured
42 by at least two (2) chains, two (2) wire ropes, or two (2) nylon



43 straps, one (1) positioned behind the front bolster and one (1) in
44 front of the back bolster.

45 (7) Except as otherwise provided in Section 63-5-21 or
46 63-7-47(2), the rear projecting load of any vehicle operating
47 during the period described under Section 63-7-11 may not extend
48 four (4) feet or more beyond the rear or body of the vehicle, or
49 as otherwise allowable by federal law.

50 (8) The length limitations on projecting loads prescribed in
51 this section do not apply to a single vehicle or the rear vehicle
52 of a combination of vehicles designed for on-farm delivery and
53 unloading of any agricultural product, in its natural or
54 manufactured form, which is fitted with an auger or similar
55 unloading device permanently affixed to the vehicle that extends
56 no more than eight (8) feet horizontally beyond the rear or body
57 of the vehicle provided that no portion of such device which
58 extends four (4) feet or more beyond the rear or body of the
59 vehicle is less than seven (7) feet above the roadway surface.
60 However, any such vehicle may not be operated on the public
61 highways, roads or streets of this state during the period
62 described under Section 63-7-11.

63 (9) A vehicle designed and especially constructed to
64 transport raw cotton from harvest to the cotton gin may have a
65 total overall length not to exceed fifty (50) feet whenever any
66 such vehicle is being operated within a radius of fifty (50) miles
67 of the vehicle's home base or its contractual customer.



68 **SECTION 2.** Section 63-7-47, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
69 amended as follows:

70 63-7-47. (1) Whenever the load upon any vehicle extends to
71 the rear four (4) feet or more beyond the rear or body of such
72 vehicle, there shall be displayed at the extreme rear end of the
73 load a red flag or cloth not less than sixteen (16) inches square.

74 (2) * * * During the period described in Section 63-7-11, any
75 vehicle transporting a load of timber products that extends * * *
76 four (4) feet or more beyond the * * * rear or body of that
77 vehicle, shall have affixed as close as practical to the end of
78 the load a rotating or oscillating amber strobe-type lamp or
79 light-emitting diode light.

80 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
81 and after July 1, 2022.

