

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.

