

By: Senator(s) McCaughn, Sparks, Suber

To: Forestry

SENATE BILL NO. 2548

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-5-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 CLARIFY PROVISIONS THAT LENGTH RESTRICTIONS ARE THE SAME FOR
3 DAYLIGHT AND NIGHTTIME OPERATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

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

7 63-5-19. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section,
8 no single vehicle, unladen or with load, shall have an overall
9 length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in excess of forty
10 (40) feet.

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

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



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

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

23 (6) The load upon the rear vehicle of a combination of
24 vehicles transporting forest or agricultural products in their
25 natural state shall not project more than twenty-eight (28) feet
26 beyond the rear axle of the vehicle * * *. If such products
27 project more than twenty-eight (28) feet beyond the rear axle and,
28 due to the end use for which they are intended (such as tall
29 utility poles or light poles or the like), such products cannot be
30 shortened without rendering them useless for the finished product
31 for which they have been cut, then such special circumstance may
32 be considered good cause for the obtaining of a permit which shall
33 be procured pursuant to Section 63-5-51 before vehicles
34 transporting such products may operate. Except as otherwise
35 provided in Section 63-5-21 or 63-7-47(2), any vehicle
36 transporting projecting loads as described in this subsection that
37 extend four (4) feet or more beyond the rear or body of the
38 vehicle shall operate * * * during daylight or nighttime hours,
39 and the load on vehicles designed to transport forestry products
40 shall be secured by at least two (2) chains, two (2) wire ropes,
41 or two (2) nylon straps, one (1) positioned behind the front
42 bolster and one (1) in front of the back bolster.



43 (7) Except as otherwise provided in Section 63-5-21 or
44 63-7-47(2), the rear projecting load of any vehicle operating
45 during the period described under Section 63-7-11 may not extend
46 four (4) feet or more beyond the rear or body of the vehicle, or
47 as otherwise allowable by federal law.

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

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

66 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
67 and after July 1, 2023.

