

By: Representative Massengill

To: Transportation

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 150

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-5-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 INCREASE THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE GROSS WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR
3 VEHICLES TRANSPORTING CONCRETE AND VEHICLES TRANSPORTING SOLID
4 WASTE TO 64,000 POUNDS FOR VEHICLES WITH THREE AXLE CONFIGURATIONS
5 AND ESTABLISH A MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHT LIMITATION OF 72,000 POUNDS
6 FOR VEHICLES WITH FOUR AXLE CONFIGURATIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR THE
7 MAXIMUM WEIGHT ALLOWABLE FOR AXLE DISTRIBUTION FOR VEHICLES WITH
8 TWO AND THREE AXLE TANDEMS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-5-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
11 amended as follows:

12 63-5-27. (1) Subject to the maximum gross single axle or
13 tandem axle weights hereinafter specified, the gross single or
14 tandem axle weights shall not exceed five hundred fifty (550)
15 pounds per inch of tire width. The gross weight on any single or
16 tandem axle thus derived shall be subject to a tolerance not in
17 excess of five hundred (500) pounds provided that the total
18 allowable gross weight of the single or tandem axle shall not
19 exceed the maximum limitations allowed hereinafter.

20 (2) The gross weight imposed on the highway by the wheels of
21 any one (1) single axle of a vehicle shall not exceed twenty



thousand (20,000) pounds exclusive of the tolerance provided in Section 63-5-33. A single axle shall be defined as an assembly of two (2) or more wheels whose centers are in one (1) transverse vertical plane or may be included between two (2) parallel transverse vertical planes forty (40) inches apart extending across the full width of the vehicle.

(3) The gross weight imposed on the highway by any tandem axle shall not exceed thirty-four thousand (34,000) pounds exclusive of the tolerance provided in Section 63-5-33. A tandem axle shall be defined as any two (2) or more consecutive axles whose centers are more than forty (40) inches but not more than ninety-six (96) inches apart. No one (1) axle of any such group of two (2) or more consecutive axles shall exceed the weight permitted for a single axle.

(4) (a) (i) Vehicles designed and especially constructed to transport concrete products * * * shall not be made to conform to the axle spacing requirements or axle or tire loadings of this section or to the total combined weights as set out in Section 63-5-33 in Table III, provided:

* * * 1. That such vehicles shall be limited to a gross vehicle weight of * * * sixty-four thousand (64,000) pounds for such vehicles with three (3) axle configurations or a gross vehicle weight of seventy-two thousand (72,000) pounds for such vehicles with four (4) axle configurations, and provided



further, that the maximum weight shall adhere to the limits imposed on the axle distribution weights as follows:

a. Twenty-two thousand (22,000) pounds for any single axle;

b. Forty-eight thousand (48,000) pounds for any two (2) axle tandem; and

c. Fifty-seven thousand (57,000) pounds for any three (3) axle tandem;

* * *2. That such vehicles shall only be operated within fifty (50) miles of their home base;

* * *3. That any such vehicles shall be limited to a maximum load of the rated capacity of the vehicle;

* * *4. That all such vehicles shall have at least three (3) axles; and

* * *5. That all vehicles with only three (3) axles shall have all wheels brake-equipped.

(ii) Any two (2) or more axles close enough to be considered an axle group shall be suspended by an equalizing system and be spaced a minimum of four (4) feet apart in order to be eligible for the maximum load as provided in this subsection.

(iii) It shall be a violation if vehicles to which this subsection applies travel upon any federal interstate highway or upon any roads or bridges designated and posted as incapable of carrying such loads by the Transportation Commission, a board of



70 supervisors, or municipal governing authorities as provided in
71 subsection (5) or (6) of this section.

72 (b) Vehicles designed and especially constructed to
73 transport raw cotton from harvest to the cotton gin shall not be
74 made to conform to the axle spacing or axle or tire loadings of
75 this section. However, such vehicles:

76 (i) Shall be limited to a gross weight of sixty
77 thousand (60,000) pounds;

78 (ii) May be operated only within a fifty-mile
79 radius of their home base or their contractual customer;

80 (iii) Shall be limited to a maximum load of the
81 rated capacity of that vehicle;

82 (iv) Shall have all wheels brake-equipped; and

83 (v) Are prohibited from traveling upon any federal
84 interstate highway or upon any roads or bridges designated and
85 posted as incapable of carrying such loads by the Mississippi
86 Department of Transportation, a board of supervisors or municipal
87 governing authorities as provided in subsection (5) or (6) of this
88 section.

89 (c) Vehicles designed and especially constructed to
90 collect and transport solid waste shall not be made to conform to
91 the axle spacing or tire loadings of this section. However, such
92 vehicles:

93 (i) Shall be limited to a gross vehicle weight
94 of * * * sixty-four thousand (64,000) pounds for such vehicles



with three (3) axle configurations, and provided further, that the maximum weight shall adhere to the limits imposed on the axle distribution weights as follows:

1. Twenty-two thousand (22,000) pounds for any single axle;

2. Forty-eight thousand (48,000) pounds for any two (2) axle tandem; and

3. Fifty-seven thousand (57,000) pounds for any three (3) axle tandem;

(ii) May be operated only within a fifty-mile radius of their home base or their contractual customer;

(iii) Shall be limited to a maximum load of the rated capacity of that vehicle;

(iv) Shall have all wheels brake-equipped; and

(v) Are prohibited from traveling upon any federal interstate highway or upon any roads or bridges designated and posted as incapable of carrying such loads by the Mississippi Department of Transportation, a board of supervisors or the governing authorities of a municipality as provided in subsection (5) or (6) of this section.

(d) The rear axle of trailer mounted knuckle boom log loaders shall be exempt from the tire loading limitation provided for in subsection (3) of this section; provided, however, that the gross weight imposed on the highway by such an axle shall not exceed forty-one thousand (41,000) pounds.



120 (5) The board of supervisors of any county or the governing
121 authorities of any municipality, by appropriate resolution, may
122 impose limitations more restrictive than those permitted in this
123 section upon the county highways of such county or the streets of
124 such municipality.

125 (6) The Mississippi Department of Transportation, for cause,
126 may post or limit any road or bridge to weights less than those
127 permitted by this section.

128 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
129 and after July 1, 2025.

