

**Adopted
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

House Bill No. 953

BY: Committee

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
in lieu thereof the following:**

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 63-5-33, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 63-5-33. (1) Subject to the limitations imposed on wheel
10 and axle loads by Section 63-5-27, and to the further limitations
11 hereinafter specified, the total combined weight (vehicles plus
12 load) on any group of axles of a vehicle or a combination of
13 vehicles shall not exceed the value given in the following table
14 (Table III) corresponding to the distance in feet between the
15 extreme axles of the group, measured longitudinally to the nearest
16 foot, on those highways or parts of highways designated by the



Mississippi Transportation Commission as being capable of carrying the maximum load limits and, in addition thereto, such other highways or parts of highways found by the commission to be suitable to carry the maximum load limits from an engineering standpoint, and so designated as such by order of the commission entered upon its minutes and published once each week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a daily newspaper published in this state and having a general circulation therein. The maximum total combined weight carried on any group of two (2) or more consecutive axles shall be determined by the formula contained in the Federal Weight Law enacted January 4, 1975, as follows: $W = 500 \left(\frac{L}{N-1} + 12N + 36 \right)$ where W=maximum weight in pounds carried on any group of two (2) or more axles computed to the nearest five hundred (500) pounds, L=distance in feet between the extremes of any group of two (2) or more consecutive axles, and N=number of axles in any group under consideration.

TABLE III

DISTANCE
IN FEET
BETWEEN THE
EXTREMES OF
ANY GROUP
OF 2 OR MORE
CONSECUTIVE
AXLES

MAXIMUM LOAD IN POUNDS CARRIED ON ANY
GROUP OF 2 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE AXLES



42		2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles	7 axles
43	4	34,000					
44	5	34,000					
45	6	34,000		Axle groups in			
46	7	34,000					
47	8 and						
48	less	34,000	34,000	these spacings			
49	More						
50	than						
51	8	38,000	42,000				
52	9	39,000	42,500				
53	10	40,000	43,500	impractical			
54	11		44,000				
55	12		45,000	50,000			
56	13		45,500	50,500			
57	14		46,500	51,500			
58	15		47,000	52,000			
59	16		48,000	52,500	58,000		
60	17		48,500	53,500	58,500		
61	18		49,500	54,000	59,000		
62	19		50,000	54,500	60,000		
63	20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000	
64	21		51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500	
65	22		52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000	
66	23		53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000	



67	24	54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500	74,000
68	25	54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000	74,500
69	26	55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500	75,000
70	27	56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000	75,500
71	28	57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000	76,500
72	29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500	77,000
73	30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000	77,500
74	31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500	78,000
75	32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000	78,500
76	33		64,000	68,500	74,000	79,000
77	34		64,500	69,000	74,500	80,000
78	35		65,500	70,000	75,000	80,000
79	36		66,000	70,500	75,500	80,000
80	37		66,500	71,000	76,000	80,000
81	38		67,500	71,500	77,000	80,000
82	39		68,000	72,500	77,500	80,000
83	40		68,500	73,000	78,000	80,000
84	41		69,500	73,500	78,500	80,000
85	42		70,000	74,000	79,000	80,000
86	43		70,500	75,000	80,000	80,000
87	44		71,500	75,500	80,000	80,000
88	45		72,000	76,000	80,000	80,000
89	46		72,500	76,500	80,000	80,000
90	47		73,500	77,500	80,000	80,000
91	48		74,000	78,000	80,000	80,000



92	49	74,500	78,500	80,000	80,000
93	50	75,500	79,000	80,000	80,000
94	51	76,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
95	52	76,500	80,000	80,000	80,000
96	53	77,500	80,000	80,000	80,000
97	54	78,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
98	55	78,500	80,000	80,000	80,000
99	56	79,500	80,000	80,000	80,000
100	57	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000

101 (2) Moreover, in addition to the per axle weight limitations
 102 specified by Section 63-5-27, two (2) consecutive sets of tandem
 103 axles may carry a gross load of thirty-four thousand (34,000)
 104 pounds each, providing that the overall distance between the first
 105 and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem axles is
 106 thirty-six (36) feet or more, except that, until September 1,
 107 1989, the axle distance for tank trailers, dump trailers and ocean
 108 transport container haulers may be thirty (30) feet or more. Such
 109 overall gross weight may not exceed eighty thousand (80,000)
 110 pounds, except as provided by this section.

111 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63-5-27 and/or
 112 Section 63-5-29 to the contrary, vehicles hauling products in the
 113 manner set forth in this subsection, whether or not such vehicles
 114 are operating with a harvest permit, shall be allowed a gross
 115 weight of not to exceed forty thousand (40,000) pounds on any
 116 tandem. Vehicles operating without a harvest permit shall be



117 allowed a tolerance not to exceed five percent (5%) above their
118 authorized gross vehicle weight, tandem or axle weight; except
119 that the maximum gross vehicle weight of any such vehicle shall
120 not exceed eighty thousand (80,000) pounds plus a tolerance
121 thereon of not more than two percent (2%). Vehicles operating
122 without a harvest permit loading at a point of origin having
123 scales available for weighing the vehicle shall not be eligible
124 for any tolerance over the gross weight limit of eighty thousand
125 (80,000) pounds. Vehicles operating with a harvest permit shall
126 be allowed a tolerance not to exceed ten percent (10%) above their
127 authorized gross vehicle weight, tandem or axle weight, but the
128 maximum gross vehicle weight of any such vehicle shall not exceed
129 eighty-eight thousand (88,000) pounds. However, neither the
130 increased weights in this subsection nor any tolerance shall be
131 allowed on federal interstate highways or on other highways where
132 a tolerance is specifically prohibited by the Transportation
133 Commission, the county board of supervisors or the municipal
134 governing authorities as provided for in Section 63-5-27. The
135 tolerance allowed by this subsection shall only apply to the
136 operation of vehicles from the point of loading to the point of
137 unloading for processing, and to the operation of vehicles hauling
138 sand, gravel, woodchips, wood shavings, sawdust, fill dirt, and
139 agricultural products, and products for recycling or materials for
140 the construction or repair of highways. The range of such
141 operation shall not exceed a radius of one hundred (100) miles



except where the products are being transported for processing within this state.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 63-5-27 and/or Section 63-5-29 to the contrary, vehicles hauling prepackaged products, unloaded at a state port or to be loaded at a state port, which are containerized in such a manner as to make subdivision thereof impractical shall be allowed a gross weight of not to exceed forty thousand (40,000) pounds on any tandem, and a tolerance not to exceed ten percent (10%) above their authorized gross weight, tandem or axle weight; except that the maximum weight of any vehicle shall not exceed eighty thousand (80,000) pounds plus a tolerance thereon of not more than two percent (2%); however, neither the increased weights in this subsection nor any tolerance shall be allowed on federal interstate highways or on other highways where a tolerance is specifically prohibited by the Transportation Commission, the county board of supervisors or the municipal governing authorities as provided for in Section 63-5-27.

(5) (a) Vehicles for which a harvest permit has been issued pursuant to Section 27-19-81(4) shall be allowed a gross vehicle weight tolerance of ten percent (10%), not to exceed eighty-eight thousand (88,000) pounds. However, the board of supervisors of any county and the governing authorities of any municipality may designate the roads, streets and highways under their respective jurisdiction on and along which vehicles for which a harvest



167 permit has been issued may travel. This subsection shall not
168 apply to the federal interstate system.

169 (b) Any owner or operator who has been issued a harvest
170 permit and who wishes to operate a vehicle on the roads, streets
171 or highways under the jurisdiction of a county or municipality at
172 a gross vehicle weight greater than the weight allowed by law or
173 greater than the maximum weight established for such roads,
174 streets or highways by the board of supervisors or municipal
175 governing authorities, shall notify, in writing, the board of
176 supervisors or the governing authorities, as the case may be,
177 before operating such vehicle on the roads, streets or highways of
178 such county or municipality. In his notice, the permit holder
179 shall identify the routes over which he intends to operate
180 vehicles for which the permit has been issued and the dates or
181 time period during which he will be operating such vehicles. The
182 board of supervisors or the governing authorities, as the case may
183 be, shall have two (2) working days to respond in writing to the
184 permit holder to notify the permit holder of the routes on and
185 along which the permit holder may operate vehicles for which a
186 harvest permit has been issued. Failure of the board of
187 supervisors or the governing authorities timely to notify the
188 permit holder and to designate the routes on and along which the
189 permit holder may operate shall be considered as authorizing the
190 permit holder to operate on any of the roads, streets or highways



191 of the county or municipality in accordance with the authority
192 granted to the permit holder by the harvest permit.

193 (c) Any time a timber deed is filed with the chancery
194 clerk, the grantee, at that time, may make a written request of
195 the board of supervisors of the county or the governing
196 authorities of the municipality, as the case may be, for the
197 purpose of providing to the grantee, within three (3) working days
198 of the filing of the request, a designated and approved route over
199 the roads, streets or highways under the jurisdiction of the
200 county or city, as the case may be, that the grantee may travel
201 for the purpose of transporting harvested timber. Upon providing
202 such route designation, the county or city, as the case may be,
203 shall also provide to the grantee a map designating the approved
204 route. An approved route designation provided to a grantee under
205 the provisions of this paragraph shall be valid for a period of
206 six (6) months from its date of issue. The permit authorized to
207 be issued under paragraph (b) of this subsection shall not be
208 required for any person who obtains a permit issued under this
209 paragraph.

210 * * *

211 (6) Nothing in this section or subsections (1) through (4)
212 of Section 63-5-27 shall be construed to deny the operation of any
213 vehicle or combination of vehicles that could be lawfully operated
214 upon the interstate highway system of this state on January 4,
215 1975.



(7) (a) Notwithstanding any provisions of Section 63-5-27 to the contrary, a vehicle that is operated by an engine fueled primarily by compressed or liquefied natural gas may exceed the gross vehicle weight limits by an amount, not to exceed a maximum of two thousand (2,000) pounds, that is equal to the difference between the weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas tank and fueling system carried by the vehicle and the weight of a comparable diesel tank and fueling system.

(b) The weight exception provided in this subsection shall apply to all interstate highways per the exemption expressly permitted by 23 USC Section 127.

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

Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 63-5-33, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO DELETE THE REPEALER ON THE PROVISIONS OF LAW THAT PROVIDE FOR THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT OF HARVEST PERMIT VEHICLES AND REQUIRE CERTAIN HARVEST PERMIT HOLDERS TO GET PRIOR APPROVAL FOR THEIR ROUTES; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

