

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 788

H.P. 551

House of Representatives, February 22, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed Pert".

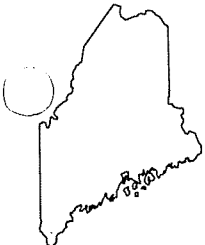
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative MITCHELL of Freeport.
Cosponsored by Senator CLARK of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

**An Act to Amend the Gross Vehicle Weight Limits of Commercial
Vehicles.**



Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

2 Sec. 1. 29 MRSA §246, first ¶, as amended by PL 1989, c. 528,
4 §§1 and 16, is further amended to read:

6 **§246. -- trucks**

8 With each application for registration of motor trucks,
10 tractors and truck tractors shall must be paid an annual
12 registration fee graduated as follows when equipped with
14 pneumatic tires:

16 From 0 pounds gross weight to 6,000 pounds gross weight
18 \$22

20 From 6,001 pounds gross weight to 9,000 pounds gross
22 weight.....\$28

24 From 9,001 pounds gross weight to 12,000 pounds gross
26 weight.....\$45

28 From 12,001 pounds gross weight to 14,000 pounds gross
30 weight.....\$78

32 From 14,001 pounds gross weight to 16,000 pounds gross
34 weight.....\$102

36 From 16,001 pounds gross weight to 18,000 pounds gross
38 weight.....\$127

40 From 18,001 pounds gross weight to 20,000 pounds gross
42 weight.....\$158

44 From 20,001 pounds gross weight to 23,000 pounds gross
46 weight.....\$185

48 From 23,001 pounds gross weight to 26,000 pounds gross
50 weight.....\$217

 From 26,001 pounds gross weight to 28,000 pounds gross
 weight.....\$262

 From 28,001 pounds gross weight to 32,000 pounds gross
 weight.....\$303

 From 32,001 pounds gross weight to 34,000 pounds gross
 weight.....\$337

 From 34,001 pounds gross weight to 38,000 pounds gross
 weight.....\$374

2	From 38,001 pounds gross weight to 40,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$398
4		
6	From 40,001 pounds gross weight to 42,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$421
8		
10	From 42,001 pounds gross weight to 45,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$445
12		
14	From 45,001 pounds gross weight to 48,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$492
16		
18	From 48,001 pounds gross weight to 51,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$528
20		
22	From 51,001 pounds gross weight to 54,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$563
24		
26	From 54,001 pounds gross weight to 55,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$575
28		
30	From 55,001 pounds gross weight to 60,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$635
32		
34	From 60,001 pounds gross weight to 65,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$694
36		
38	From 65,001 pounds gross weight to 69,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$757
40		
42	From 69,001 pounds gross weight to 72,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$792
44		
46	From 72,001 pounds gross weight to 75,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$816
48		
50	From 75,001 pounds gross weight to 78,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$852
	From 78,001 pounds gross weight to 80,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$872
	From 80,001 pounds gross weight to 90,000 pounds gross weight.....	\$977

Sec. 2. 29 MRSA §1652, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 528, §2 and 16, is amended to read:

A. No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall may be operated, or caused to be operated, on or over any way or

2 bridge when the gross weight, actual weight of vehicle and
 4 load, exceeds 90,000 80,000 pounds. No vehicles having 2
 6 axles shall may be so operated, or caused to be operated,
 8 when the gross weight exceeds 34,000 pounds; no vehicle or
 10 combination of vehicles having 3 axles shall may be so
 12 operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight
 14 exceeds 54,000 pounds; no vehicle or combination of vehicles
 16 having 4 axles shall may be so operated, or caused to be
 18 operated, when the gross weight exceeds 69,000 pounds;
 20 except as provided in paragraph E, no vehicle or combination
 of vehicles having 5 or more axles shall may be so operated,
 or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds
 80,000 pounds. ~~Vehicles may be operated, or caused to be
 operated on the Interstate Highway System, as defined in the
 Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, with a maximum gross weight
 permitted by this subsection, provided such gross weights do
 not~~ Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection,
 the gross weight of vehicles may not exceed the lesser of
 80,000 pounds or the following formula:

$$W=500 \left(\frac{LN}{N-1} + 12N + 36 \right)$$

W=overall gross weight on any group of 2 or more consecutive axles to the nearest 500 pounds

L=overall distance in feet between the extreme of any group of 2 or more consecutive axles

N=number of axles in group under consideration

~~and in no case shall such gross weight limits on the Interstate Highway System exceed 80,000 pounds.~~

36 **Sec. 3. 29 MRSA §1652, sub-§1, ¶E,** as amended by PL 1989,
 38 c. 528, §§3 and 16, is repealed.

40 **Sec. 4. 29 MRSA §1652, sub-§1, ¶F,** as amended by PL 1989,
 c. 528, §§4 and 16, is repealed.

42 **Sec. 5. 29 MRSA §1655, 2nd ¶,** as repealed and replaced by
 44 PL 1989, c. 528, §§8 and 16, is amended to read:

46 Notwithstanding the first paragraph, the tandem axle
 48 unit limit for 5 or more axle combination vehicles shall may
 50 not exceed 44,000 pounds ~~and a 6-axle combination vehicle
 consisting of a 3-axle tractor operating in combination with
 a tri-axle semitrailer may be operated, or caused to be
 operated, with a maximum gross weight of 100,000 pounds,
 provided that the maximum gross weight permitted on a tandem~~

2 axle--unit--shall--be--44,000--pounds--and--the--maximum--gross
weight--permitted--on--a--tri-axle--unit--shall--be--54,000--pounds,
4 and--provided--that--the--distance--between--the--extreme--axles,
excluding--the--steering--axle,--is--at--least--32--feet.---Any--such
6 vehicle,--if--registered--in--a--jurisdiction--where--the--maximum
allowable--registered--weight--is--less--than--90,000--pounds,--must
8 have--a--permit--authorizing--that--operation--in--this--State.---The
annual--fee--for--the--permit--shall--be--\$105.---The--permit--may--be
10 issued--for--a--period--of--3--months--or--more--on--a--monthly
prorated--basis,--but--shall--not--exceed--the--expiration--date--of
the--annual--registration.

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STATEMENT OF FACT

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This bill amends the gross vehicle weight limits of commercial vehicles operating on state highways to conform to those limits applicable on the Interstate Highway System. In accordance with these changes, the bill repeals provisions allowing for commercial vehicle registration or permitting gross vehicle weights exceeding 80,000 pounds.