

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 930

S. P. 352

In Senate, February 21, 1957.

Reported by Senator Cole of Waldo from Committee on Transportation and printed under joint rules No. 10.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT Relating to Weight of Commercial Vehicles.

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

**Sec. 1. R. S., c. 22, § 16, sub-§ III, amended.** The 6th paragraph of subsection III of section 16 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'No motor vehicle, or combination of motor vehicle and trailer or semi-trailer, **except fire department vehicles**, shall exceed in length ~~45~~ **50** feet over all including all structural parts thereof, permanent or temporary; ~~provided, however, that the load on any motor vehicle, including trucks, combination of tractor and semi-trailer, passenger buses and passenger cars, and the load on any trailer, may extend not exceeding 1 foot 6 inches beyond the rear of the maximum permissible structural length of such motor vehicle or tractor, exclusive of tailboard, and any load carried thereon or therein.~~

**Sec. 2. R. S., c. 22, § 109, amended.** Section 109 of chapter 22 of the Revised Statutes is hereby amended to read as follows:

'**Sec. 109. Weight of commercial vehicles limited.** No motor truck, trailer, tractor, combination of truck tractor and semi-trailer, or other commercial vehicle shall be operated, or caused to be operated, on or over any way or bridge when the gross weight, actual weight of vehicle and load, exceeds ~~50,000~~ **60,000** pounds. No vehicle having 2 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 32,000 pounds, **no vehicle having 3 axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 50,000 pounds and no vehicle having 4 or more axles shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the gross weight exceeds 60,000 pounds.** The operation of the

vehicle shall be prima facie evidence that said operation was caused by the person, firm or corporation holding the permit or certificate for said vehicle from the Public Utilities Commission.

**No Two or more axles less than 4 feet apart shall be considered as one axle and no group of axles shall carry a load in pounds in excess of the value given in the following table corresponding to the distance in feet between the extreme axles of the group, measured longitudinally to the nearest foot :**

Distance in feet between the extremes of any group of axles	3 axle vehicles	4 or more axle vehicles with adequate brakes on the wheels of all axles.
4 to 7, inclusive .....	32,000	
8 .....	32,610	
9 .....	33,580	
10 .....	34,550	
11 .....	35,510	
12 .....	36,470	
13 .....	37,420	
14 .....	38,360	45,900
15 .....	39,300	46,750
16 .....	40,230	47,600
17 .....	41,160	48,450
18 .....	42,080	49,300
19 .....	42,990	50,150
20 .....	43,900	51,000
21 .....	44,800	51,850
22 .....	45,700	52,700
23 .....	46,590	53,550
24 .....	47,470	54,400
25 .....	48,350	55,250
26 .....	49,220	56,100
27 <del>and over</del> .....	50,000	56,950
28 .....	50,000	57,800
29 .....	50,000	58,650
30 .....	50,000	59,520
31 and over .....	50,000	60,000

provided, however, that no vehicle shall have a gross weight imparted to any road surface of more than 22,000 pounds on any one axle, and no vehicle having 2 or more axles less than ~~10~~ 8 feet apart shall be operated, or caused to be operated, with more than ~~16,000~~ 18,000 pounds imparted to the road surface from either axle **or 32,000 pounds from both axles**; provided further, that no vehicle shall be so operated, or caused to be operated, when the load imparted to the road surface is greater than 600 pounds per inch width tire, manufacturer's rating; except, however, that 3-axle trucks with brakes on the wheels of all axles hauling forest products may be operated for a gross weight of

48,000 pounds with a distance between the extreme axles of not less than 18 feet, and except, further, that 3-axle trucks with brakes on the wheels of all axles hauling construction materials may be operated for a gross weight of 48,000 pounds with a distance between the extreme axles of not less than 16 feet and except that in special cases, special permits for the transportation of individual shipments in loads of greater gross weights may be granted by the State Highway Commission or such appropriate commission or official as is duly authorized elsewhere in this chapter. **All trucks with 4 or more axles shall have adequate brakes on all axles.'**