Session of 2025

SENATE BILL No. 17

By Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

1-16

AN ACT concerning traffic regulations; relating to the size, weight and loads of vehicles; excepting haulers of grain and other agricultural goods from gross weight limitations for vehicles; amending K.S.A. 8-1909 and repealing the existing section.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 8-1909 is hereby amended to read as follows: 8-1909. (a) No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be moved or operated on any highway when the gross weight on two or more consecutive axles exceeds the limitations prescribed in the following table:

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

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					
2 axles	3 axles	4 axles	5 axles	6 axles	7 axles	8 axles
23	53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000		
24	54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500	74,000	
25	54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000	74,500	
26	55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500	75,000	
27	56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000	75,500	
28	57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000	76,500	82,000
29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500	77,000	82,500
30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000	77,500	83,000
31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500	78,000	83,500
32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000	78,500	84,500
33		64,000	68,500	74,000	79,000	85,000
34		64,500	69,000	74,500	80,000	85,500
35		65,500	70,000	75,000	80,500	
36		66,000	70,500	75,500	81,000	
37		66,500	71,000	76,000	81,500	
38		67,500	72,000	77,000	82,000	
39		68,000	72,500	77,500	82,500	
40		68,500	73,000	78,000	83,500	
41		69,500	73,500	78,500	84,000	
42		70,000	74,000	79,000	84,500	
43		70,500	75,000	80,000	85,000	
44		71,500	75,500	80,500	85,500	
45		72,000	76,000	81,000		
46		72,500	76,500	81,500		
47		73,500	77,500	82,000		
48		74,000	78,000	83,000		
49		74,500	78,500	83,500		
50		75,500	79,000	84,000		
51		76,000	80,000	84,500		
52		76,500	80,500	85,000		
53		77,500	81,000	85,500		
54		78,000	81,500			
55		78,500	82,500			
56		79,500	83,000			
57		80,000	83,500			
58			84,000			
59			85,000			
60			85,500			

except that two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of

34,000 pounds each if the overall distance between the first and last axles is 36 feet or more.

(1) The gross weight on any one axle of a vehicle shall not exceed the limits prescribed in K.S.A. 8-1908, and amendments thereto.

(2) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (e), for vehicles and combinations of vehicles on the interstate system the table in this section shall not authorize a maximum gross weight of more than 80,000 pounds.

(3) The table in this section shall not apply to truck tractor and dump semitrailer or truck trailer combination when ~~such are~~ used as a combination unit exclusively for the transportation of sand, salt for highway maintenance operations, gravel, slag stone, limestone, crushed stone, cinders, coal, blacktop, dirt or fill material~~, when such vehicles are used~~ *or* for transportation to a construction site, highway maintenance or construction project or other storage facility, except that such vehicles or combination of vehicles shall not be exempted from any application of the table as may be required to determine applicable axle weights for triple and quad axles as defined in K.S.A. 8-1908, and amendments thereto. As used in this paragraph ~~(3)~~, the term "dump semitrailer" means any semitrailer designed in such a way as to divest itself of the load carried thereon.

(4) (A) In the case of a vehicle or combination of vehicles exclusively carrying grain or other seasonally harvested products during the normal harvest season from the field where such grain or products are harvested to storage, market or stockpile or from stockpile to market or factory up to 50 miles, the load may be up to:

(i) 10% greater than the maximum weight shown in the table in this section for vehicles with tandem, triple or quad axles; or

(ii) 12.5% greater than the maximum weight shown in the table in this section for vehicles with a single rear axle.

(B) For vehicles and combinations of vehicles, the maximum gross weight authorized under this paragraph shall not exceed 90,000 pounds.

(C) This paragraph does not apply to the national system of interstate and defense highways.

(b) Any vehicle registered under the laws of this state ~~which vehicle is~~ designed and used primarily for the transportation of property or for the transportation of 10 or more persons may, at the time of its registration, be subjected by the director of vehicles to investigation or test as may be necessary to enable such director to determine whether such vehicle may safely be operated upon the highways in compliance with all provisions of this act. Every such vehicle shall meet the following requirements:

(1) It shall be equipped with brakes as required in K.S.A. 8-1734, and amendments thereto.

(2) Every motor vehicle to be operated outside of business and

residence districts shall have motive power adequate to propel such vehicle and any load thereon or to be drawn thereby, at a speed ~~which~~ *that* will not impede or block the normal and reasonable movement of traffic. Exception to this requirement shall be recognized when reduced speed is necessary for safe operation or when a vehicle or combination of vehicles is necessarily or in compliance with law or police direction proceeding at reduced speed.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight in excess of the limitations set forth in article 19 of chapter 8 of *the* Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto, except as provided in K.S.A. 8-1911, and amendments thereto.

(d) As used in this section, "interstate system" means the national system of interstate and defense highways.

(e) A vehicle, if operated by an engine fueled primarily by natural gas, may exceed any vehicle weight limit under this section, up to a maximum gross vehicle weight of 82,000 pounds, by an amount that is equal to the difference between:

(1) The weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas tank and fueling system carried by that vehicle; and

(2) the weight of a comparable diesel tank and fueling system.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 8-1909 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.