
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1678 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY BARRAR, MILLARD, NEILSON AND WHEELAND,
JULY 22, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, JULY 22, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in size, weight and load, further providing for
3 limits on number of towed vehicles, for length of vehicles
4 and for application to tow trucks.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Sections 4904(c)(2), 4923(b.1)(7) and 4949 of
8 Title 75 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended
9 to read:

10 § 4904. Limits on number of towed vehicles.

11 * * *

12 (c) Towing vehicles requiring service.--

13 * * *

14 (2) A combination [requiring emergency service may be
15 towed to a nearby garage or other place of safety.]
16 consisting of a tow truck towing a disabled motor vehicle or
17 a combination of a truck, a truck tractor or not more than
18 two trailers may be towed as set forth in section 4949
19 (relating to application to tow trucks).

1 * * *

2 § 4923. Length of vehicles.

3 * * *

4 (b.1) Combinations.--

5 * * *

6 (7) A combination consisting of [any] a tow truck towing
7 a disabled motor vehicle [to a place of repairs or other
8 place of safety.] or a combination of a truck, a truck
9 tractor or not more than two trailers may be towed as set
10 forth in section 4949 (relating to application to tow
11 trucks).

12 * * *

13 § 4949. Application to tow trucks.

14 [The weight restrictions set forth in this subchapter do not
15 apply to a combination consisting of any tow truck towing a
16 disabled motor vehicle to a place of repairs or other place of
17 safety as long as the overweight combination travels directly to
18 the first available such location and the movement is performed
19 at the direction of authorized emergency personnel or a
20 qualified Commonwealth employee.]

21 (a) Towing length restrictions.--A combination consisting of
22 a tow truck towing a combination of a truck, a truck tractor or
23 not more than two trailers shall not exceed 150 feet when
24 traveling in combination.

25 (b) Towing weight restrictions.--The weight restrictions set
26 forth in this subchapter do not apply to a combination
27 consisting of a tow truck towing a disabled motor vehicle or a
28 combination consisting of a tow truck towing a combination of a
29 truck, a truck tractor or not more than two trailers to a place
30 of repairs if:

1 (1) The oversized combination travels on the same route
2 as prescribed by the permit.

3 (2) The tow truck operator obeys all applicable road and
4 bridge weight restrictions.

5 (c) Towing distance restrictions.--A combination consisting
6 of a tow truck towing a combination of a truck, a truck tractor
7 or not more than two trailers shall only tow a disabled motor
8 vehicle to an appropriate place of repairs that is within 75
9 miles of the point of disability.

10 (d) Failure to meet restrictions.--At any time, if a tow
11 truck operator cannot meet all the requirements of this section,
12 the tow truck operator shall report the incident to authorized
13 emergency personnel or a qualified employee of the Commonwealth.
14 An emergency plan to remove the disabled motor vehicle shall be
15 developed and approved by the department within 24 hours of the
16 initial report.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.