
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 589 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY LANGERHOLC, TOMLINSON, EICHELBERGER, GORDNER, YAW,
VOGEL, VULAKOVICH, SCARNATI, RAFFERTY, RESCHENTHALER,
BARTOLOTTA, WHITE, STEFANO, MARTIN, WARD, WAGNER, AUMENT,
MCGARRIGLE AND SCAVELLO, APRIL 13, 2017

REFERRED TO TRANSPORTATION, APRIL 13, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in fees, further providing for annual hauling
3 permits; and, in size, weight and load, further providing for
4 maximum gross weight of vehicles and for conditions of
5 permits and security for damages and providing for permit for
6 movement of freight via natural gas vehicles.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Section 1943 of Title 75 of the Pennsylvania
10 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subsection to read:
11 § 1943. Annual hauling permits.

12 * * *

13 (s) Natural gas vehicles.--The annual fee for movement of
14 freight via natural gas vehicles, as provided for in section
15 4979.7 (relating to permit for movement of freight via natural
16 gas vehicles) shall be \$500.

17 Section 2. Section 4941(a) of Title 75 is amended and the
18 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

19 § 4941. Maximum gross weight of vehicles.

1 (a) General rule.--[No] Except as provided for in subsection
2 (d), no vehicle shall, when operated upon a highway, have a
3 gross weight exceeding 80,000 pounds, and no combination driven
4 upon a highway shall have a gross weight exceeding 80,000
5 pounds, or the applicable weight set as forth in subsection (b)
6 or (c), whichever is less.

7 * * *

8 (d) Natural gas vehicles.--

9 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
10 vehicle that is operated by an engine fueled primarily by
11 compressed or liquefied natural gas may exceed the gross
12 vehicle weight limits imposed under this section by an
13 amount, not to exceed a maximum of 2,000 pounds, that is
14 equal to the difference between the weight of the vehicle
15 attributable to the natural gas tank and fueling system
16 carried by the vehicle and the weight of a comparable diesel
17 tank and fueling system.

18 (2) The weight exemption provided for under this
19 subsection shall apply to all interstate highways as provided
20 by the exemption permitted under 23 U.S.C. § 127 (relating to
21 vehicle weight limitations--Interstate System).

22 Section 3. Section 4962(f) of Title 75 is amended to read:

23 § 4962. Conditions of permits and security for damages.

24 * * *

25 (f) When loads permitted.--Only vehicles and combinations
26 permitted under the following provisions shall be authorized to
27 carry or haul loads while operating under the permit:

28 Section 4961(a)(2), (3) and (6) (relating to authority to
29 issue permits).

30 Section 4965 (relating to single permits for multiple

1 highway crossings).

2 Section 4968 (relating to permit for movement during
3 course of manufacture).

4 Section 4974 (relating to permit for movement of
5 containerized cargo).

6 Section 4975 (relating to permit for movement of special
7 mobile equipment).

8 Section 4976 (relating to permit for movement of domestic
9 animal feed).

10 Section 4976.1 (relating to permit for movement of live
11 domestic animals).

12 Section 4976.2 (relating to permit for movement of eggs).

13 Section 4977 (relating to permit for movement of wooden
14 structures).

15 Section 4978 (relating to permit for movement of building
16 structural components).

17 Section 4979 (relating to permit for movement of
18 particleboard or fiberboard used in the manufacture of ready-
19 to-assemble furniture).

20 Section 4979.1 (relating to permit for movement of bulk
21 refined oil).

22 Section 4979.2 (relating to permit for movement of waste
23 coal and beneficial combustion ash).

24 Section 4979.3 (relating to permit for movement of float
25 glass or flat glass for use in construction and other end
26 uses).

27 Section 4979.4 (relating to permit for movement of self-
28 propelled cranes).

29 Section 4979.5 (relating to permit for movement of
30 nonhazardous liquid glue).

1 Section 4979.6 (relating to permit for movement of waste
2 tires).

3 Section 4979.7 (relating to permit for movement of
4 freight via natural gas vehicles).

5 * * *

6 Section 4. Title 75 is amended by adding a section to read:
7 § 4979.7. Permit for movement of freight via natural gas
8 vehicles.

9 An annual permit may be issued authorizing the movement on
10 specified highways of freight as allowed by law by a vehicle
11 powered by natural gas, be it compressed or liquefied, which
12 exceeds the maximum vehicle gross weight specified in section
13 4941 (relating to maximum gross weight of vehicles). The weight
14 of any vehicle permitted under this section may not exceed
15 82,000 pounds overall gross weight and 21,000 pounds on any
16 steering axle.

17 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.