

ACT 168

S. B. NO. 1650-70

A Bill for an Act Relating to Vehicle Gross Weight, Axle, and Wheel Loads.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Section 291-35, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 291-35. Gross weight, axle, and wheel loads. No motor vehicle or other power vehicle or combination of such vehicles equipped wholly with pneumatic tires, which has a total gross weight, including vehicle and load, an axle load or a wheel load in excess of the limits set forth in this section shall be operated or moved upon any public road, street, or highway within the State, provided, that the maximum gross weights, axle loads and wheel loads allowed under this section shall be inapplicable when its application would adversely affect the receipt of federal funds for highway purposes; and provided further, that no vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be operated on or moved over any bridge or other highway structure if the total gross weight, including vehicle and load, exceeds the posted maximum gross load limitation for the bridge or other highway structure.

(1) The total gross weight of any vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed that determined by the formula $‘W’ = 800 (L + 40)$; in which $‘W’$ is the total gross weight, including vehicle and load, and $‘L’$ is the distance in feet between the first and last axles of the vehicle or combination of vehicles; provided that, vehicles or a combination of vehicles with three, four, or five axles having a single axle weight of not more than eighteen thousand pounds and a distance from the first axle to the last axle of nineteen feet or greater but

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less than fifty-two feet, shall be permitted to be operated or moved upon any public road, street, or highway within the State although the vehicles' total gross weight exceeds that determined by the above formula if the axle weights of the vehicle or combination of vehicles do not exceed the allowable limits shown on the following table:

TABLE OF ALLOWABLE MAXIMUM WEIGHTS

Distance to the nearest foot measured between any 3 or more consecutive axles	Allowable weight in pounds for any group of 3 or more consecutive axles			
	3-Axles	4-Axles	5-Axles	
19	48,000	52,500	Not Permitted	
20	49,000	53,500		
21	49,500	54,000		
22	50,500	54,500		
23	51,000	55,500		
24	52,000	56,000		
25	52,500	56,500		
26	53,500	57,500		
27	54,000	58,000		
28		58,500		
29		59,500		
30		60,000		
31		60,500		
32		61,500		
33		62,000		
34		62,500		
35		63,500		
36		64,000		
37		64,500		
38		65,500		69,500
39		66,000		70,500
40		66,500		71,000
41		67,000		71,500
42		68,000		72,000
43		68,500		73,000
44		69,500		73,280
45		70,000		73,280
46		70,500	73,280	
47		71,500	73,280	
48		72,000	73,280	
49		72,500	73,280	
50		73,280	73,280	
51		73,280	73,280	

Provided, that no vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be used or operated (A) with a load upon any single or tandem axle or combination of axles which exceeds the carrying capacity of the axles specified by the manufacturer, or (B) with a total weight in excess of its designed capacity as indicated by its designed gross vehicle weights or gross combination weights; and provided further, that operators of vehicles under the jurisdiction of the public utilities commission shall file with the commission a copy of the design specifications of the manufacturer or other evidence of the designed gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight.

(2) The total gross weight upon any two or more consecutive axles of any such vehicle or combination of vehicles, when the distance between the first and last axles of the two or more axles is thirteen feet or less, shall not exceed that determined by the following formula:

'W' = 700 (L + 40); in which 'W' is the total gross weight imposed upon the highway by the group of axles under consideration, and 'L' is the distance in feet between the first and last axles of the group of axles under consideration; provided that this formula shall not apply to vehicles operating on state highways when 'L' is less than six feet, but the maximum weight allowable in such case shall be thirty-two thousand pounds.

(3) When the operation of any such vehicle or combination of vehicles is limited to a section of public highway along which there is no structure having an overall length of twenty feet or greater, measured along a line parallel to the center line of the highway, the total gross weight of the vehicle or combination of vehicles shall not exceed that determined by the following formula:

'W' = 900 (L + 40); in which 'W' is the total gross weight, including vehicle and load, and 'L' is the distance in feet between the first and last axles of the vehicle or combination of vehicles.

Operators of vehicles or combination of vehicles whose operations are limited to the above sections of highways and desiring to operate under this paragraph shall first secure written permits from the state department of transportation, in the case of state highways, or from the county engineer or his representative, in the case of county roads, to operate the same within the section specified. These permits shall be good for a period of one year from date of issue or until revoked by the issuing authority. No fee shall be required for such permits.

The owner of any vehicle or combination of vehicles operating under the conditions set forth in this paragraph whose vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be found operating over sections of highway not covered by his permit shall be subject to the penalties provided in section 291-37.

(4) The total gross load imposed upon the highway by any single axle shall not exceed twenty-four thousand pounds. For the purposes of this paragraph, axles placed in the same transverse plane which are closer than forty-two inches shall be considered as one axle.

(5) The total gross load imposed upon the highway by any one wheel, either single or dual mounting, shall not exceed twelve thousand pounds.

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(6) The total average unit pressure imposed upon the highway by any individual tire shall not exceed sixty pounds per square inch of tire contact area with pavement.

Computation of tire contact area shall be made in accordance with the following formula:

Solid tires	Area = $1.2566w^2$
Cushion tires	Area = $1.4922w^2$
Pneumatic tires	Area = $1.5708w^2$

in which 'W' is the measured width in inches of loaded tire impression upon a plane surface."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this Act, the revisor of statutes need not include the brackets, the bracketed material, or the underscoring.*

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
(Approved June 29, 1970.)

* Edited accordingly