

Chapter 80

**(House Bill 233)**

AN ACT concerning

**Motor Vehicles – Calculation of Length – Loading Devices**

FOR the purpose of excluding certain cargo loading devices from the calculation of the length of a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles for the purposes of compliance with maximum motor vehicle or combination of vehicles length requirements; clarifying that certain factors included in the calculation of the length of a motor vehicle apply to the calculation of the length of a combination of vehicles; extending the application of a certain calculation of vehicle length to certain provisions of law relating to maximum vehicle lengths; making certain stylistic changes; and generally relating to maximum motor vehicle lengths.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Transportation  
Section 24–104.1(b) and 24–104.2(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Transportation  
Section 24–104.1(i)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Transportation**

24–104.1.

(b) (1) For purposes of this [section] **SUBTITLE**, the length of a vehicle [includes] **OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES:**

**(I) INCLUDES** its front and rear bumpers and any part of its load that extends beyond the vehicle[, but is exclusive of nonload bearing] **OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES; AND**

**(II) DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

**1. NONLOAD-BEARING** safety and energy conservation devices, such as marker lamps, steps and handholds for entry and egress, front-mounted refrigeration units, and front-mounted air compressors; **OR**

**2. NONPROPERTY CARRYING DEVICES OR THEIR COMPONENTS THAT DO NOT EXTEND MORE THAN 24 INCHES BEYOND THE REAR OF THE VEHICLE AND ARE NEEDED FOR LOADING OR UNLOADING CARGO.**

(2) The measurement of a combination of vehicles engaged in the transportation of automobiles or boats shall not include the overhang of the transported vehicles or boats or any retractable device on the rear of the combination when in use to support a transported vehicle.

(i) When a semitrailer (single) is being operated in combination with a truck tractor, the combination of vehicles shall not be subject to an overall length limit, however, the semitrailer may not exceed 48 feet in length.

24-104.2.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title and subject to **§ 24-104.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND** subsections (b), (c), and (d) of this section, a person may operate a semitrailer (single) in combination with a truck tractor that exceeds 48 feet in length up to a length not to exceed 53 feet.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2015.

**Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2015.**