

Chapter 255

(Senate Bill 1038)

AN ACT concerning

State Highway Administration – Overweight Vehicle Permits
Vehicle Laws – Overweight Vehicles – Heavy Weight Port Corridor Permit

FOR the purpose of authorizing the ~~State Highway Administration to issue permits allowing certain overweight vehicles to operate on certain highways designated by the Administration; establishing certain terms for a permit; establishing a certain annual fee for the permit; defining a certain term; and generally relating to State Highway Administration permits for overweight vehicles~~ Secretary of Transportation to determine that a vehicle or combination of vehicles transporting certain freight is an indivisible load authorized to obtain a certain overweight vehicle permit under certain circumstances; establishing certain conditions for a vehicle issued a permit under this Act, including a requirement to travel only on roads designated as being part of a “heavy weight port corridor”; establishing a certain maximum gross vehicle weight for a vehicle with a permit for traveling on a heavy weight port corridor; establishing a certain maximum gross vehicle weight for a vehicle with a permit for traveling on a heavy weight port corridor; requiring the Secretary to adopt certain regulations for the issuance of permits under this Act; and generally relating to a heavy weight port corridor permit.

BY adding to

Article – Transportation
Section ~~24-112.2~~ 24-109(i) and 24-113.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

Article – Transportation

~~24-112.2.~~

~~(A) IN THIS SECTION, “HEAVY WEIGHT CORRIDOR” MEANS A MOTOR VEHICLE ROUTE COMPRISING ONE OR MORE HIGHWAYS THAT:~~

~~(1) HAVE A LOAD RATING OF AT LEAST 40 TONS (80,000 POUNDS) BUT NOT EXCEEDING 50 TONS (100,000 POUNDS); AND~~

~~(2) ARE SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED BY THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION.~~

~~(B) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS TITLE, THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION MAY ISSUE A PERMIT AUTHORIZING AN OVERWEIGHT VEHICLE THAT HAS AT LEAST SIX AXLES TO USE A HEAVY WEIGHT CORRIDOR.~~

~~(C) A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER THIS SECTION:~~

~~(1) AUTHORIZES THE PERMITTED VEHICLE TO CARRY UP TO 50 TONS (100,000 POUNDS);~~

~~(2) SHALL BE VALID FOR A 12 MONTH PERIOD FROM THE DATE OF ISSUANCE;~~

~~(3) MAY BE RENEWED BY THE PERMIT HOLDER ON EXPIRATION;~~

~~(4) AUTHORIZES THE PERMIT HOLDER TO OPERATE THE OVERWEIGHT VEHICLE ON A HEAVY WEIGHT CORRIDOR AT ALL TIMES OF THE DAY, WITHOUT RESTRICTION; AND~~

~~(5) HAS AN ANNUAL FEE OF \$100.~~

24-109.

(I) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS SECTION, THE GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT OF A VEHICLE FOR WHICH A PERMIT IS ISSUED UNDER § 24-113.3 OF THIS SUBTITLE FOR TRAVELING ALONG A DESIGNATED HEAVY WEIGHT PORT CORRIDOR MAY NOT EXCEED 100,000 POUNDS.

24-113.3.

(A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS TITLE, THE SECRETARY, BY REGULATION, MAY DETERMINE THAT A VEHICLE OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES TRANSPORTING MANIFESTED INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT AS THE ONLY LOAD OF THE VEHICLE OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES IN A SEALED, SEAGOING CONTAINER ON A SEMITRAILER IS TRANSPORTING AN INDIVISIBLE LOAD, PROVIDED THAT THE VEHICLE OR COMBINATION OF VEHICLES IS ISSUED A PERMIT UNDER THIS SECTION AND:

(1) IS CARRYING NOT MORE THAN 100,000 POUNDS GROSS MAXIMUM VEHICLE WEIGHT;

(2) HAS THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF AXLES REQUIRED BY THE PERMIT;

(3) DOES NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM AXLE WEIGHT OR AXLE SPACING REQUIREMENTS, AS ESTABLISHED BY REGULATION OR SPECIFIED ON THE PERMIT;

(4) IS TRAVELING ONLY DURING THE HOURS AS ESTABLISHED BY REGULATION OR SPECIFIED ON THE PERMIT;

(5) ADHERES TO A UNIQUE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT SPECIFIED ON THE PERMIT; AND

(6) IS TRAVELING ONLY ON STATE OR COUNTY HIGHWAYS THAT ARE:

(I) ON THE SPECIFIC ROUTE ESTABLISHED BY REGULATION AND SPECIFIED ON THE PERMIT BETWEEN THE SEAGIRT MARINE TERMINAL AND A DESTINATION AUTHORIZED BY THE SECRETARY, WITH NO DEVIATION FROM THE SPECIFIC ROUTE; AND

(II) SPECIFICALLY DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY AS BEING PART OF A “HEAVY WEIGHT PORT CORRIDOR”.

(B) (1) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS, CONSISTENT WITH THIS SECTION, FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR VEHICLES DESCRIBED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

(2) THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION:

(I) MAY SET PERMIT FEES; AND

(II) SHALL ESTABLISH AXLE AND GROSS WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS, ROUTES, AND OTHER NECESSARY CRITERIA.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2019.

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2019.