

HOUSE BILL 56

Unofficial Copy
R6

1998 Regular Session
8r0543

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate D. Hughes**

Requested: October 17, 1997

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 1998

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Weight Tolerances - Agricultural Products**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a permitted weight tolerance under the Maryland Vehicle
4 Law concerning certain vehicles transporting certain agricultural products
5 during harvest time to apply to any agricultural product that is loaded at the
6 harvest site.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Transportation
9 Section 24-108(c)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Transportation**

15 24-108.

16 (c) (1) Except on interstate highways, a vehicle carrying agricultural
17 products as defined under § 10-601 of the Agriculture Article or forest products that
18 have been loaded in fields or other off-highway locations is permitted an axle load
19 limit tolerance of 10 percent.

20 (2) Except on interstate highways, a single unit vehicle with 3 axles, or a
21 combination of vehicles with a trailer less than 32 feet long, either registered as a
22 farm vehicle or carrying agricultural products as defined under § 10-601 of the
23 Agriculture Article that were loaded in fields or other off-highway locations, is
24 permitted an axle load limit tolerance of 5 percent from § 24-109(b) and (c) of this
25 subtitle, except during harvest time when a tolerance of 15 percent from § 24-109(b)
26 and (c) of this subtitle is permitted for a vehicle carrying [the following] agricultural
27 products[:

- 1 (i) Wheat, for the period from June 1 to August 15;
- 2 (ii) Corn, for the period from July 1 to December 1; and
- 3 (iii) Soybeans, for the period from September 1 to December 1]
- 4 THAT ARE LOADED AT THE HARVEST SITE.

5 (3) Except on interstate highways, a single unit vehicle with at least 3

6 axles or a combination of vehicles with a trailer length of less than 32 feet or a

7 semitrailer length of 45 feet or less carrying forest products that have been loaded in

8 forests or other similar off-highway locations is permitted an axle load limit tolerance

9 of 5 percent from § 24-109(b) and (c) of this subtitle.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect

11 July 1, 1998.