

HOUSE BILL 56

Unofficial Copy
R6

1998 Regular Session
8lr0543

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate D. Hughes**
Requested: October 17, 1997
Introduced and read first time: January 14, 1998
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: February 17, 1998

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of ~~altering a permitted~~ permitting a certain weight tolerance under
4 the Maryland Vehicle Law ~~concerning~~ for certain vehicles transporting certain
5 agricultural products during ~~harvest~~ a certain time ~~to apply to any agricultural~~
6 ~~product that is loaded at the harvest site;~~ altering certain requirements relating
7 to the eligibility of certain vehicle combinations for certain weight tolerances;
8 altering the period during which certain weight tolerances apply for certain
9 vehicles carrying soybeans; making a technical correction; and generally
10 relating to weight tolerances for vehicles carrying agricultural products.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Transportation
13 Section 24-108(c)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - Transportation**

19 24-108.

20 (c) (1) Except on interstate highways, a vehicle carrying ~~agricultural~~ FARM
21 products as defined under § 10-601 of the Agriculture Article or forest products that

1 have been loaded in fields or other off-highway locations is permitted an axle load
 2 limit tolerance of 10 percent.

3 (2) Except on interstate highways, a single unit vehicle with 3 axles, or a
 4 combination of vehicles with a ~~trailer~~ SEMITRAILER NOT less than 32 feet long, either
 5 registered as a farm vehicle or carrying ~~agricultural~~ FARM products as defined under
 6 § 10-601 of the Agriculture Article that were loaded in fields or other off-highway
 7 locations, is permitted an axle load limit tolerance of 5 percent from § 24-109(b) and
 8 (c) of this subtitle, except during harvest time when a tolerance of 15 percent from §
 9 24-109(b) and (c) of this subtitle is permitted for a vehicle carrying ~~the following~~
 10 ~~agricultural products~~ ~~†~~:

11 (i) Wheat, for the period from June 1 to August 15;

12 (ii) Corn, for the period from July 1 to December 1; ~~and~~

13 (iii) Soybeans, for the period from September 1 to December [1] 31;
 14 ~~AND THAT ARE LOADED AT THE HARVEST SITE.~~

15 (IV) VEGETABLE CROPS FOR THE PERIOD FROM JUNE 1 TO
 16 OCTOBER 31.

17 (3) Except on interstate highways, a single unit vehicle with at least 3
 18 axles or a combination of vehicles with a trailer length of less than 32 feet or a
 19 semitrailer length of 45 feet or less carrying forest products that have been loaded in
 20 forests or other similar off-highway locations is permitted an axle load limit tolerance
 21 of 5 percent from § 24-109(b) and (c) of this subtitle.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 23 July 1, 1998.