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By: **Delegate Harkins**  
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 27, 1998

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Vehicle Combinations - Maximum Length**

3 FOR the purpose of extending the maximum permissible length of a combination of  
4 vehicles with a power unit that is a cargo-carrying vehicle; and generally  
5 relating to the maximum permissible length of certain vehicle combinations.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
7 Article - Transportation  
8 Section 24-104.1(b)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (1992 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - Transportation  
13 Section 24-104.1(j)  
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 24-104.1.

20 (b) (1) For purposes of this section, the length of a vehicle includes its front  
21 and rear bumpers and any part of its load that extends beyond the vehicle, but is

1 exclusive of nonload bearing safety and energy conservation devices, such as marker  
2 lamps, steps and handholds for entry and egress, front-mounted refrigeration units,  
3 and front-mounted air compressors.

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

8 (j) Except as otherwise provided in this section:

9 (1) In a combination of vehicles with a power unit that is a  
10 cargo-carrying vehicle, the overall length of the combination may not exceed [55] 62  
11 feet;

12 (2) Any other combination of vehicles may not exceed 55 feet; and

13 (3) (i) 1. A truck or truck tractor and semitrailer combination  
14 designed for and engaged exclusively in the transportation of automobiles or boats  
15 may not exceed 65 feet in length;

16 2. A stinger-steered automobile transporter or a  
17 saddle-mount or a full-mount combination may not exceed 75 feet in length; and

18 3. A. A maxi-cube vehicle described in subsection (a)(4)(i)  
19 of this section may not exceed 65 feet in length; and

20 B. A maxi-cube vehicle described in subsection (a)(4)(ii) of  
21 this section may not exceed 60 feet in length;

22 (ii) No other length requirements may be applied to the  
23 combinations of vehicles described in item (i) of this paragraph; and

24 (iii) The combinations of vehicles described in item (i) of this  
25 paragraph may only be operated on any part of the interstate system or other State  
26 system highways that are designated by the Secretary in conjunction with the U.S.  
27 Department of Transportation, or on a highway that is the shortest practical route  
28 between a designated highway and:

29 1. A truck terminal;

30 2. A point of origin/destination for cargo; or

31 3. For a distance not to exceed 1 mile, facilities for food, fuel,  
32 repairs, or rest.

33 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
34 October 1, 1998.

