
By: **Delegate Edwards**
Rules Suspended
Introduced and read first time: March 25, 1998
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

3 FOR the purpose of modifying a certain weight tolerance under the Maryland Vehicle
4 Law for certain vehicles transporting forest products under certain
5 circumstances.

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

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

13 **Article - Transportation**

14 24-108.

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

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

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

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

2 (iii) Soybeans, for the period from September 1 to December 1.

3 (3) (I) Except on interstate highways, a single unit vehicle with at
4 least 3 axles or a combination of vehicles with a trailer length of less than 32 feet [or
5 a semitrailer length of 45 feet or less] carrying forest products that have been loaded
6 in forests or other similar off-highway locations is permitted an axle load limit
7 tolerance of [5] 10 percent from § 24-109(b) and (c) of this subtitle.

8 (II) EXCEPT ON INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS, A COMBINATION OF
9 VEHICLES WITH A SEMITRAILER LENGTH OF 45 FEET OR LESS CARRYING FOREST
10 PRODUCTS THAT HAVE BEEN LOADED IN FORESTS OR OTHER SIMILAR
11 OFF-HIGHWAY LOCATIONS IS PERMITTED AN AXLE LOAD LIMIT TOLERANCE OF 5
12 PERCENT FROM § 24-109(B) AND (C) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

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