

SENATE BILL 798

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R7

1998 Regular Session  
8lr2819  
CF 8lr2818

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By: **Senator Hafer**

Constitutional Requirements Complied with for Introduction in the last 35 Days of Session

Introduced and read first time: March 26, 1998

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Judicial Proceedings, April 6, 1998

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: April 10, 1998

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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.

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

- 9                   (i)       Wheat, for the period from June 1 to August 15;
- 10                  (ii)       Corn, for the period from July 1 to December 1; and
- 11                  (iii)       Soybeans, for the period from September 1 to December 1.

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

17                   (II)       EXCEPT ON INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS, A COMBINATION OF  
18 VEHICLES WITH A SEMITRAILER LENGTH OF 45 FEET OR LESS CARRYING FOREST  
19 PRODUCTS THAT HAVE BEEN LOADED IN FORESTS OR OTHER SIMILAR  
20 OFF-HIGHWAY LOCATIONS IS PERMITTED AN AXLE LOAD LIMIT TOLERANCE OF 5  
21 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 October 1, 1998.