

SENATE BILL 44

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R6

1999 Regular Session
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(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chairman, Judicial Proceedings Committee (Departmental -
Transportation)**

Requested: July 27, 1998

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 1999

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 1999

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commercial Vehicles - Ban on Hazardous Material Hauling for Combination**
3 **Trailers - Repeal**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing a prohibition against transporting certain hazardous
5 materials on certain tractor-trailer combination vehicles.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Article - Transportation
8 Section 24-104.2(a)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article - Transportation
13 Section 24-104.2(c)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

1

Article - Transportation

2 24-104.2.

3 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title and subject to subsections
4 (b), (c), and (d) of this section, a person may operate a semitrailer (single) in
5 combination with a truck tractor that exceeds 48 feet in length up to a length not to
6 exceed 53 feet.

7 (c) A vehicle combination operating under this section may operate in this
8 State only under the following conditions:

9 (1) The wheelbase of the semitrailer, measured as the distance from the
10 kingpin to the center of the rear tandem axles, may not exceed 41 feet in length.

11 (2) The kingpin setback, measured as the distance from the kingpin to
12 the front of the semitrailer, may not exceed 4 feet in length.

13 (3) The rear overhang, measured as the distance from the center of the
14 rear tandem axles to the rear of the semitrailer, may not exceed 35 percent of the
15 wheelbase of the semitrailer.

16 (4) (i) The width of the semitrailer shall be at least 96 inches and not
17 more than 102 inches.

18 (ii) The distance between the outside edges of the semitrailer's tires
19 shall be equal to the width of the semitrailer.

20 (5) The semitrailer shall be equipped with:

21 (i) Vehicle lights which comply with or exceed federal standards;
22 and

23 (ii) After December 31, 1993, or a date established by the Secretary
24 that is at least 6 months after the effective date of the applicable federal standards,
25 whichever is later, reflective material that is consistent with the standards for
26 conspicuity promulgated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

27 (6) The semitrailer shall be equipped with a rear underride guard of
28 sufficient strength to prevent a motor vehicle from penetrating underneath the
29 semitrailer. The rear underride guard shall extend across the rear of the semitrailer
30 to within 4 inches of the lateral extremities of the semitrailer, and placed at a height
31 not exceeding 22 inches from the surface as measured when the semitrailer is on a
32 level surface.

33 (7) Conspicuous warnings shall be displayed on the semitrailer, in a
34 manner prescribed by the Administration, indicating that the vehicle combination has
35 a wide turning radius.

1 [(8) (i) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, a
2 combination of vehicles may not transport any Class A or B explosives, poison gas,
3 flammable gas and flammable liquids when carried as cargo, flammable solids if
4 dangerous when wet, radioactive materials, and uranium hexofluoride.

5 (ii) Subparagraph (i) of this paragraph does not apply to the
6 transport of flammable liquids when packaged in a nonbulk quantity.]

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
8 effect October 1, 1999.