

SENATE BILL 481

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HB 1174/98 - CGM

1999 Regular Session
9lr2144

By: **Senator Hafer**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 1999

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

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 (1998 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 1. A truck terminal;

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

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

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