
By: **Senator Collins**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2002

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Motor Vehicles - Camping Trailers, Motor Homes, and Travel Trailers**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the width limit for a motor home or travel trailer under
4 certain circumstances; altering the length limit for a certain motor home under
5 certain circumstances; altering the length limit for a combination of
6 noncommercial vehicles consisting of a power unit and a travel trailer under
7 certain circumstances; altering the length limit for a travel trailer under certain
8 circumstances; authorizing the State Highway Administration to issue a permit
9 allowing an unlimited number of oversized camping trailers, motor homes, or
10 travel trailers to use the highways in the State for commercial purposes under
11 certain circumstances; establishing certain requirements for permits issued
12 under this Act; establishing a fee; and generally relating to camping trailers,
13 motor homes, and travel trailers.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article - Transportation
16 Section 24-102(c), 24-104.1(d), (e), and (m), and 24-112
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

19 BY adding to
20 Article - Transportation
21 Section 24-104.1(n)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

1 **Article - Transportation**

2 24-102.

3 (c) (1) A vehicle may not be driven on any highway if the width of the
4 vehicle exceeds the limits specified in this subsection, unless:5 (i) It has a permit issued by the State Highway Administration
6 under § 24-112 of this subtitle; or7 (ii) As to a highway under the jurisdiction of a local authority, it has
8 special permission from the local authority.9 (2) For a motor vehicle loaded with tobacco hogsheads or sod, the width
10 limit is 102 inches.11 (3) For a bus[, motor home, or travel trailer] on any highway that is
12 part of the interstate system or State primary system or for a publicly owned transit
13 bus, the width limit is 102 inches.14 (4) FOR A MOTOR HOME OR TRAVEL TRAILER ON ANY HIGHWAY THAT IS
15 PART OF THE INTERSTATES SYSTEM OR STATE PRIMARY SYSTEM, THE WIDTH LIMIT
16 IS 102 INCHES EXCLUDING SAFETY DEVICES, RETRACTED AWNINGS, AND OTHER
17 APPURTENANCES INSTALLED BY THE MANUFACTURER.18 (5) For a truck or combination of vehicles, the width limit is 102 inches,
19 provided that:20 (i) It is being operated on any part of the interstate system or other
21 State system highways that are designated by the Secretary in conjunction with the
22 U.S. Department of Transportation; or

23 (ii) It is being operated on a highway that:

24 1. Is the shortest practical route between a designated
25 highway and a truck terminal, a point of origin/destination for cargo, or for a distance
26 not to exceed 1 mile, facilities for food, fuel, repairs, or rest; or27 2. Is the safest practical route and is a State highway with 4
28 or more lanes.

29 [(5)] (6) For any other vehicle, the width limit is 96 inches.

30 24-104.1.

31 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a [bus,] BUS OR a single unit
32 [truck, or a Class M motor home] TRUCK may not be over 40 feet long.33 (e) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a publicly owned rigid
34 bus may not be over 41 feet long.

1 (2) The length of a bus OR A CLASS M MOTOR HOME on any highway that
2 is part of the interstate system or State primary system may not exceed 45 feet.

3 (m) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a combination of
4 noncommercial vehicles consisting of a power unit and a travel trailer may not exceed
5 [60] 65 feet in length.

6 (2) The combination of vehicles exceeding 55 feet but authorized under
7 this subsection may only be operated on:

8 (i) Any part of the interstate system or other State system
9 highways that are designated by the Secretary in conjunction with the U.S.
10 Department of Transportation; or

11 (ii) A highway that is the shortest practical route between a
12 designated highway and:

13 1. A point of origin or destination on a particular day; or

14 2. For a distance not to exceed 1 mile, facilities for food, fuel,
15 repairs, or rest.

16 (N) A TRAVEL TRAILER MAY NOT EXCEED 40 FEET IN LENGTH.

17 24-112.

18 (a) (1) The State Highway Administration may issue a permit allowing an
19 oversized vehicle to use the highways in this State.

20 (2) For each permit issued under this subsection, the State Highway
21 Administration shall charge a fee of not less than \$30.

22 (b) (1) THE STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION MAY ISSUE A PERMIT
23 ALLOWING AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF OVERSIZED CAMPING TRAILERS, MOTOR
24 HOMES, OR TRAVEL TRAILERS TO USE THE HIGHWAYS IN THIS STATE FOR
25 COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

26 (2) A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION:

27 (I) SHALL BE EFFECTIVE FOR 1 YEAR;

28 (II) IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (F)(2)
29 AND (3) OF THIS SECTION; AND

30 (III) MAY NOT IMPOSE ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS ON THE
31 MOVEMENT OF THE CAMPING TRAILERS, MOTOR HOMES, OR TRAVEL TRAILERS.

32 (3) FOR EACH PERMIT ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE STATE
33 HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION SHALL CHARGE A FEE OF NOT LESS THAN \$30.

1 (C) (1) The State Highway Administration may issue a permit allowing an
2 overweight vehicle to use the highways in this State.

3 (2) For each permit issued under this subsection, the State Highway
4 Administration shall charge a fee of not less than:

5 (i) \$30 for the first 45 tons (90,000 pounds) or less of gross weight
6 of the vehicle; and

7 (ii) \$5 for each additional ton (2,000 pounds) or part of a ton in
8 excess of 45 tons.

9 [(c)] (D) The Secretary is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations for
10 the purpose of establishing a schedule of fees for permits issued under this section
11 using dollar amounts that will recover but not exceed the administrative costs
12 associated with issuance and use of the permits, including compliance monitoring.

13 [(d)] (E) Each permit issued under this section shall specify:

14 (1) The maximum size or weight permitted;

15 (2) The route to be followed; and

16 (3) The date and hour on which the trip is to be made.

17 [(e)] (F) (1) A person may not violate any condition of a permit issued under
18 this section.

19 (2) A person may not move an oversized or overweight load which
20 requires a permit under this section without first obtaining the permit and having the
21 permit in the person's possession.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 2002.