

# SENATE BILL 86

R6

EMERGENCY BILL  
*ENROLLED BILL*

(4lr0013)

— *Judicial Proceedings/Environmental Matters* —

Introduced by **Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request –  
Departmental – Transportation)**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Size, Weight, and Axle Load Limits**

3 FOR the purpose of exempting certain vehicles engaged in emergency operations or in  
4 snow or ice removal from certain provisions of law governing size, weight, and  
5 axle load limits; repealing a certain provision of law that authorizes the State  
6 Highway Administration to issue limited duration special vehicle permits in  
7 exceptional cases of vehicles exceeding size or weight limits; making this Act an  
8 emergency measure; and generally relating to vehicle size, weight, and axle load  
9 limits.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
11 Article – Transportation  
12 Section 24–101 and 24–113  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland

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**EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.**

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.

*Italics* indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)

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

4 **Article – Transportation**

5 24–101.

6 (a) The provisions of this subtitle governing size, weight, and load do not  
7 apply to:

8 (1) Emergency vehicles;

9 (2) Farm equipment temporarily moved on a highway; [or]

10 (3) [A vehicle driven under the terms of a special permit issued under  
11 this subtitle] **VEHICLES OWNED BY OR UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE STATE OR A  
12 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE WHEN ENGAGED IN EMERGENCY  
13 OPERATIONS OR IN SNOW OR ICE REMOVAL CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL LAW;  
14 OR**

15 **(4) ANY OTHER VEHICLE DRIVEN UNDER THE TERMS AND  
16 CONDITIONS OF A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

17 (b) A person may not drive on any publicly maintained highway any vehicle  
18 or combination of vehicles with a gross weight that exceeds:

19 (1) The maximum registered weight limit for which the vehicle or  
20 combination is registered under § 24–110 of this subtitle; or

21 (2) Any other weight limit established under the Maryland Vehicle  
22 Law.

23 (c) A person may not permit to be driven on any publicly maintained  
24 highway any vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight that exceeds:

25 (1) The maximum registered weight limit for which the vehicle or  
26 combination is registered under § 24–110 of this subtitle; or

27 (2) Any other weight limit established under the Maryland Vehicle  
28 Law.

29 (d) A violation of the maximum weight provisions of this subtitle is not a  
30 moving violation for purposes of Title 16, Subtitle 4 of this article.

1 24-113.

2 (a) The purpose of this section is to:

3 (1) Facilitate the obtaining of permits;

4 (2) Eliminate undue hardships to political subdivisions, contractors,  
5 and the movers of heavy or large equipment; and

6 (3) Make possible, when circumstances justify, the issuing of permits  
7 under which more than one move can be made.

8 (b) The State Highway Administration and the Department of State Police  
9 jointly may formulate rules and regulations that:

10 (1) Implement the statutes on the movement of oversize and  
11 overweight vehicles; and

12 (2) Establish fees and charges under these statutes.

13 (c) (1) Before a rule or regulation may be adopted or amended under this  
14 section, the State Highway Administration shall hold a public hearing on it.

15 (2) After the hearing, the State Highway Administration may adopt  
16 the proposed rule, regulation, or amendment or any appropriate modification to it.

17 [(d) In exceptional cases, special vehicle permits may be issued for vehicles  
18 exceeding maximum size and weight limitations; however, it is not intended to allow  
19 regular and continuous movement by a vehicle operating with a permit issued under  
20 this subsection.]

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
22 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety,  
23 has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members  
24 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from  
25 the date it is enacted.