

HOUSE BILL No. 4093

February 7, 1989, Introduced by Reps. Leland, Bartnik, Gire, Webb, Hertel, Wallace, Middaugh, Martin, Bender, Law, DeMars, Owen and Jaye and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

A bill to amend section 722 of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of 1949, entitled as amended

"Michigan vehicle code,"

as amended by Act No. 346 of the Public Acts of 1988, being section 257.722 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. Section 722 of Act No. 300 of the Public Acts of
2 1949, as amended by Act No. 346 of the Public Acts of 1988, being
3 section 257.722 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, is amended to read
4 as follows:

5 Sec. 722. (1) ~~The~~ THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1993, THE maximum
6 axle load shall not exceed the number of pounds designated in the
7 following provisions which prescribe the distance between axles:

1 (a) When the axle spacing is 9 feet or more between axles,
2 the maximum axle load shall not exceed 18,000 pounds for vehicles
3 equipped with high pressure pneumatic or balloon tires.

4 (b) When the axle spacing is less than 9 feet between 2
5 axles but more than 3-1/2 feet, the maximum axle load shall not
6 exceed 13,000 pounds for high pressure pneumatic or balloon
7 tires.

8 (c) When axles are spaced less than 3-1/2 feet apart, the
9 maximum axle load shall not exceed 9,000 pounds per axle.

10 (d) Subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) shall be known as the
11 normal loading maximum.

12 (2) ~~When~~ THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1993, WHEN normal loading is
13 in effect, the state transportation department and local authori-
14 ties with respect to highways under their jurisdiction may desig-
15 nate certain highways, or sections of those highways, where
16 bridges and road surfaces are adequate for heavier loading, which
17 designation may be revised as needed, on which the maximum tandem
18 axle assembly loading shall not exceed 16,000 pounds for any axle
19 of the assembly, if there is no other axle within 9 feet of any
20 axle of the assembly.

21 (3) Except as provided in subsection ~~(8)~~ (9), on a legal
22 combination of vehicles, only 1 tandem axle assembly shall be
23 permitted on the designated highways at the gross permissible
24 weight of 16,000 pounds per axle, if there is no other axle
25 within 9 feet of any axle of the assembly, and if no other tandem
26 axle assembly in the combination of vehicles exceeds a gross
27 weight of 13,000 pounds per axle. When the maximum gross weight

7 (4) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1994, THE MAXIMUM GROSS VEHICLE
8 WEIGHT FOR THE OPERATION OF VEHICLES SHALL NOT BE MORE THAN
9 80,000 POUNDS AND SHALL NOT EXCEED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

13 (C) AN OVERALL GROSS WEIGHT ON A GROUP OF 2 OR MORE CONSECU-
14 TIVE AXLES EQUALING:

17 WHERE W = OVERALL GROSS WEIGHT ON A GROUP OF 2 OR MORE CONSECU-
18 TIVE AXLES TO THE NEAREST 500 POUNDS, L = DISTANCE IN FEET
19 BETWEEN THE EXTREME OF A GROUP OF 2 OR MORE CONSECUTIVE AXLES,
20 AND N = NUMBER OF AXLES IN THE GROUP UNDER CONSIDERATION.
21 HOWEVER, 2 CONSECUTIVE SETS OF TANDEM AXLES MAY CARRY A GROSS
22 LOAD OF 17,000 POUNDS PER AXLE EACH IF THE FIRST AND LAST AXLES
23 OF THE CONSECUTIVE SETS OF TANDEM AXLES ARE NOT LESS THAN 36 FEET
24 APART, AND THE GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT DOES NOT EXCEED 80,000 POUNDS
25 INCLUDING ALL ENFORCEMENT TOLERANCES.

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1 permissible for any wheel shall not exceed 700 pounds per inch of
2 width of tire.

3 (6) ~~-(5)-~~ During the months of March, April, and May in each
4 year, the maximum axle load allowable on concrete pavements, or
5 pavements with a concrete base, shall be reduced by 25% from the
6 maximum axle load as specified in this chapter, and the maximum
7 axle loads allowable on all other types of roads during these
8 months shall be reduced by 35% from the maximum axle loads as
9 specified. The maximum wheel load shall not exceed 525 pounds
10 per inch of tire width on concrete and concrete base or 450
11 pounds per inch of tire width on all other roads during the
12 period the seasonal road restrictions are in effect.

13 (7) ~~-(6)-~~ The state transportation department, or a local
14 authority with respect to highways under its jurisdiction, may
15 suspend the restrictions imposed by this section when and where,
16 in its discretion, conditions of the highways or the public
17 health, safety, and welfare so warrant, and may impose the
18 restricted loading requirements of this section on designated
19 highways at any other time that the conditions of the highway may
20 require.

21 (8) ~~-(7)-~~ For the purpose of enforcement of this act, the
22 gross vehicle weight of a single vehicle and load or a combina-
23 tion of vehicles and loads, shall be determined by weighing indi-
24 vidual axles or groups of axles, and the total weight on all the
25 axles shall be the gross vehicle weight. In addition, THROUGH
26 DECEMBER 31, 1993, the gross axle weight shall be determined by
27 weighing individual axles or by weighing a group of axles and

7 (9) ~~(8)~~ The loading maximum in this subsection shall apply
8 to interstate highways, and the state transportation department,
9 or a local authority with respect to highways under its jurisdic-
10 tion, may designate a highway, or a section of a highway, for the
11 operation of vehicles having a gross vehicle weight of not more
12 than 80,000 pounds which are subject to the following load
13 maximums:

16 (b) A tandem axle weight of 34,000 pounds including all
17 enforcement tolerances.

18 (c) An overall gross weight on a group of 2 or more consec-
19 tive axles equaling:

22 where W = overall gross weight on a group of 2 or more consecu-
23 tive axles to the nearest 500 pounds, L = distance in feet
24 between the extreme of a group of 2 or more consecutive axles,
25 and N = number of axles in the group under consideration; except
26 that 2 consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of

1 34,000 pounds each if the first and last axles of the consecutive
2 sets of tandem axles are not less than 36 feet apart. The gross
3 vehicle weight shall not exceed 80,000 pounds including all
4 enforcement tolerances. Except for 5 axle truck tractor, semi-
5 trailer combinations having 2 consecutive sets of tandem axles,
6 vehicles having a gross weight in excess of 80,000 pounds or in
7 excess of the vehicle gross weight determined by application of
8 the formula in this subsection shall be subject to the maximum
9 axle loads of subsections (1), (2), and (3). As used in this
10 subsection, "tandem axle weight" means the total weight transmit-
11 ted to the road by 2 or more consecutive axles, the centers of
12 which may be included between parallel transverse vertical planes
13 spaced more than 40 inches, but not more than 96 inches, apart,
14 extending across the full width of the vehicle. THIS SUBSECTION
15 SHALL APPLY THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1993.