

As Amended by House Committee

Session of 2018

SENATE BILL No. 375

By Committee on Transportation

2-5

1 AN ACT regulating traffic; relating to length of vehicles, certain vehicle
2 combinations; **gross weight limits, emergency vehicles**; amending
3 K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 8-1904 and repealing the existing section.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 **New Section 1. (a) Notwithstanding any other laws to the**
7 **contrary, an emergency vehicle may operate at a gross weight not**
8 **exceeding 86,000 pounds, subject to a maximum weight of:**

9 (1) **24,000 pounds on a single steering axle;**

10 (2) **33,500 pounds on a single drive axle;**

11 (3) **62,000 pounds on a tandem axle;**

12 (4) **52,000 pounds on a tandem rear drive steer axle.**

13 (b) **As used in this section, "emergency vehicle" means a vehicle**
14 **designed to be used under emergency conditions to:**

15 (1) **Transport personnel and equipment; and**

16 (2) **support the suppression of fires and mitigation of other**
17 **hazardous situations.**

18 ~~Section 1.~~ **Sec. 2.** K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 8-1904 is hereby amended to
19 read as follows: 8-1904. (a) No vehicle including any load thereon shall
20 exceed a height of 14 feet, except that a vehicle transporting cylindrically
21 shaped bales of hay as authorized by K.S.A. 8-1902(e), and amendments
22 thereto, may be loaded with such bales secured to a height not exceeding
23 14½ feet. Should a vehicle so loaded with bales strike any overpass or
24 other obstacle, the operator of the vehicle shall be liable for all damages
25 resulting therefrom. The secretary of transportation may adopt rules and
26 regulations for the movement of such loads of cylindrically shaped bales
27 of hay.

28 (b) No motor vehicle including the load thereon shall exceed a length
29 of 45 feet extreme overall dimension, excluding the front and rear
30 bumpers, except as provided in subsection (d).

31 (c) Except as otherwise provided in K.S.A. 8-1914 and 8-1915, and
32 amendments thereto, and subsections (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) ~~and~~, (i) *and* (j),
33 no combination of vehicles coupled together shall exceed a total length of
34 65 feet.

35 (d) The length limitations in subsection (b) shall not apply to a truck
36 tractor. No semitrailer which is being operated in combination with a truck

1 tractor shall exceed 59½ feet in length. No semitrailer or trailer which is
2 being operated in a combination consisting of a truck tractor, semitrailer
3 and trailer shall exceed 28½ feet in length.

4 (e) The limitations in this section governing maximum length of a
5 semitrailer or trailer shall not apply to vehicles operating in the daytime
6 when transporting poles, pipe, machinery or other objects of a structural
7 nature which cannot readily be dismembered, except that it shall be
8 unlawful to operate any such vehicle or combination of vehicles which
9 exceeds a total length of 85 feet unless a special permit for such operation
10 has been issued by the secretary of transportation or by an agent or
11 designee of the secretary pursuant to K.S.A. 8-1911, and amendments
12 thereto. For the purpose of authorizing the issuance of such special permits
13 at motor carrier inspection stations, the secretary of transportation may
14 contract with the superintendent of the Kansas highway patrol for such
15 purpose, and in such event, the superintendent or any designee of the
16 superintendent may issue such special permit pursuant to the terms and
17 conditions of the contract. The limitations in this section shall not apply to
18 vehicles transporting such objects operated at nighttime by a public utility
19 when required for emergency repair of public service facilities or
20 properties or when operated under special permit as provided in K.S.A. 8-
21 1911, and amendments thereto, but in respect to such night transportation
22 every such vehicle and the load thereon shall be equipped with a sufficient
23 number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps upon the
24 extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of
25 such load.

26 (f) The limitations of this section governing the maximum length of
27 combinations of vehicles shall not apply to a combination of vehicles
28 consisting of a truck tractor towing a house trailer, if such combination of
29 vehicles does not exceed an overall length of 97 feet.

30 (g) The length limitations of this section shall not apply to stinger-
31 steered automobile or boat transporters or one truck and one trailer vehicle
32 combination, loaded or unloaded, used in transporting a combine, forage
33 cutter or combine header to be engaged in farm custom harvesting
34 operations, as defined in K.S.A. 8-143j(d), and amendments thereto. A
35 stinger-steered boat transporter or one truck and one trailer vehicle
36 combination, loaded or unloaded, used in transporting a combine, forage
37 cutter or combine header to be engaged in farm custom harvesting
38 operations, as defined in K.S.A. 8-143j(d), and amendments thereto, shall
39 not exceed an overall length limit of 75 feet, exclusive of front and rear
40 overhang. A stinger-steered automobile transporter shall not exceed an
41 overall length limit of 80 feet, exclusive of front and rear overhang.

42 (h) The length limitations of this section shall not apply to drive-away
43 saddlemount or drive-away saddlemount with fullmount vehicle

1 transporter combination. A drive-away saddlemount or drive-away
2 saddlemount with fullmount vehicle transporter combination shall not
3 exceed an extreme overall dimension of 97 feet.

4 (i) The length limitations of this section shall not apply to a one
5 truck-tractor two trailer combination or one truck-tractor semitrailer trailer
6 combination used in transporting equipment utilized by custom harvesters
7 under contract to agricultural producers to harvest wheat, soybeans or
8 milo, during the months of April through November, but the length of the
9 property-carrying units, excluding load, shall not exceed 81½ feet.

10 (j) *The length limitations of this section shall not apply to a towaway*
11 *trailer transporter combination consisting of a trailer transporter towing*
12 *unit and two trailers or semitrailers with a total weight not exceeding*
13 *26,000 pounds and in which the trailers or semitrailers carry no property*
14 *and constitute inventory property of a manufacturer, distributor or dealer*
15 *of such trailers or semitrailers. Such towaway trailer transporter*
16 *combination shall not exceed a length of 82 feet. As used in this*
17 *subsection, "a trailer transporting towing unit" means a power unit that is*
18 *not used to carry property when operating in a towaway trailer*
19 *transporter combination.*

20 Sec. ~~2~~ **3**. K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 8-1904 is hereby repealed.

21 Sec. ~~3~~ **4**. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
22 publication in the statute book.