As Engrossed: 3/12/91

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2	78th General Assembly A BILACT 1231 OF 195
3	Regular Session, 1991 SENATE BILL 708
4	By: Senator Hoofman
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7	For An Act To Be Entitled
8	"AN ACT TO AMEND SUBSECTION (b) OF ARKANSAS CODE § 27-35-
9	203 TO RE-DEFINE THE TERM `TANDEM' AXLES; TO AMEND
10	SUBSECTION (e) OF ARKANSAS CODE § 27-35-203 TO CLARIFY
11	THAT ALL VEHICLES OPERATING ON THE HIGHWAYS OF ARKANSAS IN
12	EXCESS OF EIGHTEEN THOUSAND POUNDS (18,000 LBS.) ON A
13	SINGLE AXLE OR THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND POUNDS (32,000 LBS.) ON
14	A TANDEM AXLE OR IN EXCESS OF SEVENTY-THREE THOUSAND TWO
15	HUNDRED EIGHTY POUNDS (73,280 LBS.) MUST COMPLY WITH THE
16	FORMULA SET FORTH HEREIN TO INSURE ARKANSAS SIZE AND
17	WEIGHT LAWS ARE COMPATIBLE TO FEDERAL LAWS AND
18	REGULATIONS; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
19	PURPOSES."
20	
21	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23	SECTION 1. Subsection (b) of Arkansas Code § 27-35-203 is hereby
24	amended to read as follows:
25	"(b) Maximum Tandem-Axle Load. (1) The total gross load imposed on
26	the highway by two (2) or more consecutive axles whose centers may be included
27	between parallel transverse vertical planes spaced more than forty inches
28	(40") and not more than ninety-six inches (96") apart, extending across the
29	full width of the vehicle, shall not exceed thirty-four thousand pounds
30	(34,000 lbs.).
31	(2) No one (1) axle of any such group of two (2) or more
32	consecutive axles shall exceed the load permitted for a single axle."
33	
34	SECTION 2. Subsection (e) of Arkansas Code § 27-35-203 is hereby
35	amended to read as follows:
36	"(e)(1) No vehicle, or combination of vehicles, shall operate upon any

1 highway in this state when the total gross load imposed on the highway by the 2 wheels of any one single axle of such vehicle or combination exceeds 18,000 3 pounds, nor when the total gross load imposed on the highway by two (2) or 4 more consecutive axles of any such vehicle or combination of vehicles whose 5 centers may be included between parallel transverse vertical planes spaced 6 more than forty inches (40") and not more than ninety-six inches (96") apart, 7 extending across the full width of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, 8 exceeds thirty-two thousand pounds (32,000 lbs.) nor when the total gross 9 weight of the vehicle, or combination of vehicles thereof, is in excess of 10 seventy-three thousand two hundred eighty pounds (73,280 lbs.) unless the 11 vehicle, or combination thereof, shall not exceed the value given in Table I 12 corresponding to the distance in feet between the extreme axles of the group, 13 measured longitudinally to the nearest foot. 14 15 Table I 16 GROSS WEIGHTS ALLOWABLE UNDER THE FORMULA CONTAINED IN THE FEDERAL WEIGHT LAW 17 ENACTED JANUARY 4, 1975, THAT ARE APPLICABLE TO VEHICLES OR COMBINATIONS 18 THEREOF IN ARKANSAS 19 Formula $W = 500[\frac{LN}{N-1} + 12N + 36]$ 20 21 22 23 24 Except that two (2) consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of 25 thirty-four thousand pounds (34,000 lbs.) each, providing that the overall 26 distance between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of tandem 27 axles is thirty-six feet (36') or more. 28 W-maximum weight in pounds carried on any group of two (2) or more axles 29 computed to the nearest five hundred pounds (500 lbs.). 30 L-distance in feet between the extremes of any group of two (2) or more 31 consecutive axles. 32 N-number of axles in group under consideration. 33 34 Distance in feet between the Maximum load in pounds carried 35 extremes of any group of 2 on any group of 2 or more

SB 708

1	or more consecutive	axles	consecutive axles	
2				
3		4 axles 5	axles	ā axles
4	33			.74,000
5	34			.74,500
6	35			.75,000
7	36			.75,500
8	37			.76,000
9	38			.77,000
10	39			.77,500
11	40			.78,000
12	41		73,500	78,500
13	42		74,000	79,000
14	43		75,000	80,000
15	44		75,500	80,000
16	45		76,000	80,000
17	46		76,500	80,000
18	47	73,500	77,500	80,000
19	48	74,000	78,000	80,000
20	49	74,500	78,500	80,000
21	50	75,500	79,000	80,000
22	51	76,000	80,000	80,000
23	52	76,500	80,000	80,000
24	53	77,500	80,000	80,000
25	54	78,000	80,000	80,000
26	55	78,500	80,000	80,000
27	56	79,000	80,000	80,000
28	57	80,000	80,000	80,000
29	(2) (A)	If the Federal Highway	y Administration or t	the United States
30	Congress prescribes	or adopts vehicle size	e or weight limits gr	reater than those
31	prescribed by the Fe	ederal-Aid Highway Act	of 1956 which limits	exceed, in full
32	or in part, the pro	visions of subsections	(a), (b), (c), (d),	or (e) of this
33	section, the State I	Highway Commission sha	ll adopt size and wei	ight limits
34	comparable to those	prescribed or adopted	by the Federal High	vay

35 Administration or the United States Congress and shall authorize the limits to

1 be used by owners or operators of vehicles while the vehicles are using 2 highways within this state. (B) No vehicle size or weight limit so adopted by the 4 commission shall be less in any respect than those provided for in subsections 5 (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of this section." 6 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of general and permanent nature 7 8 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code 9 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code. 10 11 SECTION 4. If any provisions of this act or the application thereof to 12 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect 13 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without 14 the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this 15 act are declared to be severable. 16 17 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are 18 hereby repealed. 19 20 SECTION 6. Emergency. It is hereby found and determined by the 21 Seventy-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that unless 22 subsections (b) and (e) of Arkansas Code § 27-35-203 are amended, thus 23 insuring that Arkansas laws are compatible with federal laws and regulations, 24 federal-aid highway funds accruing to this state will be withheld; that such 25 federal-aid highway funds are essential to the highway, road, and street 26 programs of this state; and that in the event of an extension of the 1991 27 Regular Session, the delay of the effective date of this act could work 28 irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of these 29 essential highway, road, and street programs. Therefore, an emergency is 30 hereby declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the immediate 31 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, shall be in full force 32 and effect from and after its passage and approval. 33 /s/Hoofman 34

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SB 708

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