

1 State of Arkansas  
2 81st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1997

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 209

4  
5 By: Senator Wilson

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 27-35-208 CONCERNING THE  
10 LENGTH OF VEHICLES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

## Subtitle

13 "AN ACT CONCERNING THE LENGTH OF  
14 VEHICLES."

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

18 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 27-35-208 is amended to read as follows:

19 "27-35-208. Length of vehicles.

20 (a) No single truck operated on the highways of this state, unladen or  
21 with load, shall have an overall length in excess of forty feet (40').

22 Provided, any single truck, unladen or with load, utilized to transport  
23 compacted seed cotton from the farm to the first point at which such seed  
24 cotton shall first undergo any processing, preparation for processing, or  
25 transformation from its compacted state may be operated on the highways of  
26 this state, with the exception of federal interstate highways, with an overall  
27 length in excess of forty feet (40') but no more than fifty-five feet (55').

28 (b) No bus operated on the highways of this state shall have an overall  
29 length in excess of forty feet (40').

30 (c)(1)(A) No semitrailer or trailer operated on the highways of this  
31 state in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination or a truck tractor-trailer  
32 combination shall have an overall length, unladen or with load, greater than  
33 those lengths that were in actual and lawful use in this state on December 1,  
34 1982.

35 (B) The state shall not establish or enforce any regulation  
36 which imposes a semitrailer or trailer length limitation of less than

1 forty-eight feet (48') on a semitrailer or trailer unit operating in  
2 combination with a truck tractor unit.

3 (2)(A) No semitrailer or trailer operated on the highways of this  
4 state in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination shall have an overall  
5 length, unladen or with load, in excess of twenty-eight feet (28').

6 (B) Existing semitrailers or trailers of twenty-eight and  
7 one-half feet (28' 6") that were in actual and lawful use on December 1, 1982,  
8 shall not be prohibited.

9 (3) The length limitations described in this subsection shall be  
10 exclusive of coupling devices, energy conservation devices, and safety devices  
11 as provided by federal regulations.

12 (d)(1) These length limitations shall not apply to vehicles operated in  
13 the daytime when transporting poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a  
14 structural nature which cannot readily be dismembered, nor to vehicles  
15 transporting objects operated at nighttime by a public utility, or its agents,  
16 or electric or telephone cooperatives, or their agents, when required for  
17 emergency repair of public facilities or properties or when operated under  
18 special permit as provided by law.

19 (2) In respect to night transportation, every vehicle and the  
20 load thereon shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on  
21 both sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to  
22 clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

23 (e)(1)(A) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this subchapter, a  
24 combination of vehicles engaged in the transportation of automobiles or other  
25 motor vehicles shall be permitted a load extension of three feet (3') beyond  
26 the front and four feet (4') beyond the rear of the combination.

27 (B) This extension shall not be considered in determining  
28 the overall length of the combination of vehicles.

29 (2) Clearance lights or reflectors on the transported vehicles  
30 shall be used to delineate the extension of the load when applicable.

31 (f) No motor vehicle shall be operated on the highways, roads, or  
32 streets of this state with more than two (2) trailing vehicles.

33 (g) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to vehicles  
34 collecting garbage, rubbish, refuse, or recyclable materials which are  
35 equipped with front end loading attachments and containers provided that the  
36 vehicle is actively engaged in the collection of garbage, rubbish, refuse, or

1 recyclable materials. For the purposes of this subsection, the term \_actively  
2 engaged\_ shall mean during the actual process of collecting garbage, rubbish,  
3 refuse, or recyclable materials with the front end loading attachment or  
4 attachments in the downward position."

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6 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
7 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
8 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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10 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
11 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
12 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
13 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
14 act are declared to be severable.

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16 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
17 hereby repealed.

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