

House Bill 189

By: Representatives Meeks of the 178th, Burchett of the 176th, Corbett of the 174th, Frye of the 122nd, Dickey of the 145th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to dimensions and weight of vehicles and loads, so as to provide for an allowable
3 variance for weight limitations upon a vehicle or load; to repeal certain exceptions which
4 allow for excess weight for vehicles and loads; to provide for related matters; to repeal
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 dimensions and weight of vehicles and loads, is amended in Code Section 32-6-26, relating
10 to weight of vehicle and load, by revising subsection (g) as follows:

11 "(g)(1) The weight limitations provided for in this Code section, except the limitation in
12 subsections (f) and (h) of this Code section, may be exceeded on any public road within
13 this state which is not an interstate highway, or when making a pickup or delivery on any
14 public road of a county road system, without a permit only when the load on any single
15 axle does not exceed 23,000 pounds, the load on any tandem axle does not exceed
16 46,000 pounds, and the maximum total gross weight of the vehicle and load does not

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17 exceed 80,000 pounds ~~when;~~ provided, however, that a 12.5 percent variance of such
18 weight limitations shall be permitted.

19 ~~(A) Hauling forest products from the forest where cut to the first point of marketing or~~
20 ~~processing;~~

21 ~~(B) Hauling live poultry or cotton from a farm to a processing plant;~~

22 ~~(C) Hauling feed from a feed mill to a farm;~~

23 ~~(D) Hauling granite, either block or sawed, or any other naturally occurring raw ore or~~
24 ~~mineral for further processing, from the quarry or stockpile area to a processing plant~~
25 ~~located in the same or an adjoining county and construction aggregates hauled to any~~
26 ~~point, unless otherwise prohibited;~~

27 ~~(E) Hauling solid waste or recovered materials from points of generation to a solid~~
28 ~~waste handling facility or other processing facility;~~

29 ~~(F) Hauling concrete that is in a freshly mixed and unhardened state for delivery to a~~
30 ~~customer; or~~

31 ~~(G) Hauling poultry waste from the point of origin to a farm.~~

32 (2) No lift axle may be used in computing the maximum total gross weight authorized
33 for any vehicle or load under this paragraph subsection.

34 ~~(2) A vehicle which is hauling the products listed in subparagraphs (A) through (F) of~~
35 ~~paragraph (1) of this subsection or which is hauling any other agricultural or farm product~~
36 ~~from a farm to the first point of marketing or processing shall be permitted a 5 percent~~
37 ~~variance from the weight limitations in paragraph (1) of this subsection within a 100 mile~~
38 ~~radius of the farm or point of origin. Any person who violates the load limitations~~
39 ~~provided for in this paragraph by exceeding the 5 percent variance per single axle,~~
40 ~~tandem axle, or maximum total gross weight shall be fined on the basis of the weight~~
41 ~~limitations of paragraph (1) of this subsection, including the variance allowed by this~~
42 ~~paragraph.~~

43 ~~(3) A vehicle which is hauling the products listed in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1)~~
44 ~~of this subsection shall be permitted a 5 percent variance from the weight limitations in~~
45 ~~paragraph (1) of this subsection within a 250-mile radius of the farm or point of origin.~~
46 ~~Any person who violates the load limitations provided for in this paragraph by exceeding~~
47 ~~the 5 percent variance per single axle, tandem axle, or maximum total gross weight shall~~
48 ~~be fined on the basis of the weight limitations of paragraph (1) of this subsection and not~~
49 ~~on the basis of the variance allowed by this paragraph.~~

50 ~~(4)~~(3) Any vehicle carrying a load as authorized in this subsection at night shall be
51 equipped with lights clearly visible for a distance of not less than 300 feet from the front
52 and rear of the vehicle."

53

SECTION 2.

54 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.