

HOUSE BILL 615

By Travis

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55  
and Title 65, relative to vehicles that haul poles,  
logs, or timber.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-7-201, is amended by deleting subsection (f) and substituting instead:

(f) The limitation as to length stated in this section does not apply to loads of poles, logs, or timber in single-length pieces; provided, that:

(1) The motor vehicle, including any part of the body or load, transporting such material must not exceed seventy-five feet (75') in length unless a permit has first been obtained as authorized in § 55-7-205; and

(2) The load of poles, logs, or timber:

(A) Is hauled by a trailer with an extendable and retractable rear impact protection that:

(i) Meets or exceeds the standards set forth by the national highway traffic safety administration (NHTSA) in 49 CFR 571.223; and

(ii) Extends beyond the longest log, pole, or piece of timber on the trailer; or

(B) Is followed by an escort vehicle with a sign attached to the rear of the vehicle that:

(i) Is at least seven feet (7') wide and eighteen inches (18") high; and

(ii) Contains the words "OVERSIZE LOAD" in black letters that are at least ten inches (10") high on a yellow background.

SECTION 2. If the department of safety or department of transportation receives documentation from a federal agency that compliance with a provision of this act may jeopardize federal funding or grant money for the respective department, then that department is not required to comply with such provision; provided, that the departments shall comply with each provision of this act that does not jeopardize such federal funding or grant money.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect July 1, 2025, the public welfare requiring it.