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> (Trucks--maximum lengths--revised)

NJSA:

39:3-84

LAWS OF:

1991

CHAPTER: 449

BILL NO:

S2659

SPONSOR(S):

Rand

DATE INTRODUCED:

May 17, 1990

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY:

Transportation

SENATE:

Transportation &

Public

Utilities

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

Amendments during passage

denoted by asterisks

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY:

SENATE:

January 13, 1992 July 25, 1991

DATE OF APPROVAL:

January 18, 1992

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT:

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY:

Yes

SENATE:

Yes

FISCAL NOTE:

No

VETO MESSAGE:

No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING:

No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS:

No

HEARINGS:

No

KBG/pp

[FIRST REPRINT] SENATE, No. 2659

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 17, 1990

By Senators RAND, McMANIMON and COWAN

AN ACT concerning commercial motor vehicles and amending R.S.39:3-84.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. R.S.39:3-84 is amended to read as follows:

39:3-84. a. The following constitute the maximum dimensional limits for width, height and length for any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, found or operated on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property in this State. Violations shall be enforced pursuant to subsection i. of section 5 of P.L.1950, c.142 (C.39:3-84.3).

The dimensional limitations set forth in this subsection are exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices necessary for safe and efficient operation of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, except that no device excluded herein shall have by its design or use the capability to carry, transport or otherwise be utilized for cargo.

Any rules and regulations authorized to be promulgated pursuant to this subsection shall be consistent with any rules and regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Transportation of the United States of America, and shall be in accordance with the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.). In addition to the other requirements of this subsection and notwithstanding any other provision of this Title, no vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection shall be operated in this State, unless by special permit authorized by subsection d. of this section with a dimension, the allowance of which would disqualify the State of New Jersey or any department, agency or governmental subdivision thereof for the purpose of receiving federal highway funds.

As used herein and pursuant to R.S.39:1-1, the term "vehicle" includes, but is not limited to, commercial motor vehicles, trucks, truck tractors, tractors, road tractors, or omnibuses. As used herein and pursuant to R.S.39:1-1, the term "combination of vehicles" includes, but is not limited to, vehicles as heretofore designated, when those vehicles are the drawing or power unit of

EXPLANATION——Matter enclosed in bold—faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

a combination of vehicles and motor-drawn vehicles, such as, but not limited to, trailers, semi-trailers, or other vehicles. As used herein, the term "recycling vehicle" means a commercial motor vehicle used for the collection or transportation of recyclable material; or any truck, trailer or other vehicle approved by the New Jersey Office of Recycling for use by persons engaging in the business of recycling or otherwise providing recycling services in this State; and "recyclable material" means those materials which would otherwise become solid waste, and which may be collected, separated or processed and returned to the economic mainstream in the form of raw materials or products.

- (1) The maximum outside width of any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents of any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall be no more than 102 inches; except that the Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Superintendent of State Police, may promulgate rules and regulations for those public roads, streets or highways or public or quasi-public property in this State, where it is determined that the interests of public safety and welfare require the maximum outside width be no more than 96 inches.
- (2) The maximum height of any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents of any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall not exceed 13 feet, 6 inches.
- (3) The maximum overall length of any vehicle, as set forth in this subsection, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall not exceed [35] 40 feet, except that the overall length of a vehicle, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, otherwise subject to the provisions of this paragraph shall not exceed 50 feet when transporting poles, pilings, structural units or other articles which cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided. When a vehicle, subject to this paragraph, is the drawing or power unit of a combination of vehicles, as set forth in this subsection, the overall length of the combination of vehicles, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, shall not exceed 62 feet. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to omnibuses or to vehicles which are not designed, built or otherwise capable of carrying cargo or loads.
- (4) The maximum overall length of a motor-drawn vehicle, as set forth in this subsection, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall not exceed ¹[48 feet] <u>53 feet</u> ¹ when operated as part of a combination of vehicles consisting of one motor-drawn vehicle and a drawing or power unit vehicle not designed, built or otherwise capable of carrying cargo or loads, except that ¹[the] <u>a</u> motor-drawn vehicle, the overall length of which is greater than

a combination of vehicles and motor-drawn vehicles, such as, but not limited to, trailers, semi-trailers, or other vehicles. As used herein, the term "recycling vehicle" means a commercial motor vehicle used for the collection or transportation of recyclable material; or any truck, trailer or other vehicle approved by the New Jersey Office of Recycling for use by persons engaging in the business of recycling or otherwise providing recycling services in this State; and "recyclable material" means those materials which would otherwise become solid waste, and which may be collected, separated or processed and returned to the economic mainstream in the form of raw materials or products.

- (1) The maximum outside width of any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents of any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall be no more than 102 inches; except that the Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Superintendent of State Police, may promulgate rules and regulations for those public roads, streets or highways or public or quasi-public property in this State, where it is determined that the interests of public safety and welfare require the maximum outside width be no more than 96 inches.
- (2) The maximum height of any vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents of any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall not exceed 13 feet, 6 inches.
- (3) The maximum overall length of any vehicle, as set forth in this subsection, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall not exceed [35] 40 feet, except that the overall length of a vehicle, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, otherwise subject to the provisions of this paragraph shall not exceed 50 feet when transporting poles, pilings, structural units or other articles which cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided. When a vehicle, subject to this paragraph, is the drawing or power unit of a combination of vehicles, as set forth in this subsection, the overall length of the combination of vehicles, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, shall not exceed 62 feet. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to omnibuses or to vehicles which are not designed, built or otherwise capable of carrying cargo or loads.
- (4) The maximum overall length of a motor-drawn vehicle, as set forth in this subsection, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall not exceed ¹[48 feet] <u>53 feet</u> ¹ when operated as part of a combination of vehicles consisting of one motor-drawn vehicle and a drawing or power unit vehicle not designed, built or otherwise capable of carrying cargo or loads, except that ¹[the] <u>a</u> motor-drawn vehicle, the overall length of which is greater than

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48 feet and not more than 53 feet, shall be constructed so that the distance between the kingpin of the motor-drawn vehicle and the centerline of its rear axle or rear axle group does not exceed 41 feet; the motor-drawn vehicle shall be equipped with a rear-end protection device of substantial construction consisting of a continuous lateral beam extending to within four inches of the lateral extremities of the motor-drawn vehicle and located not more than 22 inches from the surface as measured with the vehicle empty and on a level surface; the kingpin of the trailer shall not be set back further than 3.5 feet from the front of the semitrailer; the rear overhang, measured from the center of the rear tandem axles to the rear of the semitrailer shall not exceed 35% of the semitrailer's wheelbase; the tractor wheelbase shall not exceed 20 feet between the center of the front axle and the center of the rear single axle or tandem axles; the width of the semitrailer and the distance between the outside edges of the trailer tires shall be 102 inches; and the vehicle shall be equipped with such reflectorization, including but not limited to side-marker reflectorization strips located between the rear axle and the rear of the motor-drawn vehicle, as shall be prescribed by the Division of Motor Vehicles, and as is consistent with any applicable federal standards concerning reflectorization. The 1 overall length of a motor-drawn vehicle otherwise subject to the provisions of this paragraph shall not exceed 63 feet when transporting poles, pilings, structural units or other articles that cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles designed, built and utilized solely to transport other motor vehicles. ¹The Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Superintendent of State Police, shall promulgate rules and regulations specifying those portions or parts of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, Federal-aid Primary System Highways and public roads, streets, highways, toll roads, freeways or parkways in this State where the combination of vehicles as described in this paragraph may lawfully operate. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations within 120 days after the effective date of this amendatory act to identify a network of roads with reasonable access for motor-drawn vehicles greater than 48 feet in length but not more than 53 feet in length. The commissioner shall, in establishing this network, consider all portions of the network for 48 foot long and 102 inch wide motor-drawn vehicles and specify those routes or portions thereof where motor-drawn vehicles greater than 48 feet in length but not more than 53 feet in length shall be excluded from lawful operation for reasons of safety. 1

(5) No combination of vehicles, including load or contents, consisting of more than two motor-drawn vehicles, as set forth in this subsection, and any other vehicle, shall be found or operated

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on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property in this State.

- (6) The maximum overall length of a motor-drawn vehicle, as set forth in this section, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, when operated as part of a combination of vehicles consisting of two motor-drawn vehicles and a drawing or power unit vehicle which is not designed, built or otherwise capable of carrying cargo or loads, shall not exceed 28 feet for each motor-drawn vehicle in the combination of vehicles. The provision of this paragraph shall not apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles designed, built and utilized solely to transport other motor vehicles. The Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Superintendent of State Police, shall promulgate rules and regulations specifying those portions or parts of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, Federal-aid Primary System Highways and public roads, streets, highways, toll roads, freeways or parkways in this State where combinations of vehicles as described in this paragraph may lawfully operate.
- (7) The maximum length and outside width of an omnibus found or operated in this State shall be established by rules and regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Superintendent of State Police. Unless otherwise specified in the aforesaid rules and regulations, the maximum outside width shall be 102 inches; any other dimension established for width in the aforesaid rules and regulations shall be based upon a determination that operation of an omnibus with a width of less than 102 inches, but no less than 96 inches is required in the interest of public safety on those public roads, streets, highways, toll roads, freeways, parkways or the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways in this State specified in the aforesaid rules and regulations, or that operation of an omnibus with a width greater than 102 inches is not unsafe on those public roads, streets, highways, toll roads, freeways, parkways or the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways in this State specified in the aforesaid rules and regulations.
- (8) The maximum width and length of farm tractors and traction equipment and farm machinery and implements shall be established by rules and regulations promulgated by the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles. The operation of the aforesaid vehicles shall be subject to the provisions of R.S.39:3-24 and they shall not be operated on any highway which is part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways or on any highway which has been designated a freeway or parkway as provided by law.
- (9) The maximum outside width of the cargo or load of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including farm trucks, loaded

with hay or straw shall not exceed 105 1/2 inches, but the maximum outside width of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, including farm trucks, shall otherwise comply with the provisions of paragraph (1) of this subsection. The Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles and the Superintendent of State Police, may promulgate rules and regulations establishing a maximum outside width of 102 inches for the aforesaid cargo or load when operating on those highways where a greater width is prohibited by operation of law.

- (10) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (4) and (6) of this subsection pertaining to length, the Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles may adopt rules and regulations specifying maximum length dimensions for any vehicle or combination of vehicles designed, built and utilized solely to transport other motor vehicles.
- (11) The provisions of this subsection pertaining to length shall not apply to a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment operated by a public utility, as defined in R.S.48:2-13, when that vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment is used by the public utility in the construction, reconstruction, repair or maintenance of its property or facilities.
- (12) The provisions of this subsection pertaining to width shall not apply to a recycling vehicle when that vehicle is used for the collection of recyclable material on a street or highway other than a highway which is designated part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways in this State or as a freeway or parkway as provided by law. The maximum outside width of any recycling vehicle so used, including load or contents of any part or portion thereof, shall be no more than 96 inches, except that the width may be up to 105 inches whenever that vehicle is operating at 15 miles per hour or less, and access steps are deployed and recyclable materials are actually being collected.
- b. No vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, found or operated on any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public property in this State shall exceed the weight limitations set forth in this Title. Violations shall be enforced pursuant to subsection j. of section 5 of P.L.1950, c.142 (C.39:3-84.3).

Where enforcement of a weight limit provision of this Title requires a measurement of length between axle centers, the distance between axle centers shall be measured to the nearest whole foot or whole inch, whichever is applicable, and when the measurement includes a fractional part of a foot equaling six inches or more or a fractional part of an inch equaling one-half inch or more, the next larger whole foot or whole inch, whichever is applicable, shall be utilized. The term "tandem axle" as used in this act is defined as a combination of consecutive axles,

consisting of only two axles, where the distance between axle centers is 40 inches or more but no more than 96 inches.

In addition to the other requirements of this section and notwithstanding any other provision of this Title, no vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall be operated in this State, unless by special permit authorized by this Title, with a gross weight, single or multiple axle weight, or gross weight of two or more consecutive axles, the allowance of which would disqualify the State of New Jersey or any department, agency or governmental subdivision thereof for the purpose of receiving federal highway funds.

(1) The gross weight imposed on the highway or other surface by the wheels of any one axle of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not exceed 22,400 pounds.

For the purpose of this Title the combined gross weight imposed on the highway or other surface by all the wheels of any one axle of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall be deemed to mean the total gross weight of all wheels whose axle centers are spaced less than 40 inches apart.

- (2) The gross weight imposed on the highway or other surface by all the wheels of all consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not exceed 34,000 pounds where the distance between consecutive axle centers is 40 inches or more, but no more than 96 inches apart.
- (3) The combined gross weight imposed on the highway or other surface by all the wheels of consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not exceed 22,400 pounds for each single axle where the distance between consecutive axle centers is more than 96 inches; except that on any highway in this State which is part of, or designated as part of, the National Interstate System, as provided at 23 U.S.C. § 103(e), this single axle limitation shall not apply and in those instances the provisions of this Title as set forth at R.S.39:3-84b.(5) shall apply.
- (4) The maximum total gross weight imposed on the highway or other surface by a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not exceed 80,000 pounds.
- (5) On any highway in this State which is part of, or designated as part of, the National Interstate System, as provided at 23 U.S.C. § 103(e), the total gross weight, in pounds, imposed on the highway or other surface by any group of two or more consecutive axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not exceed that listed in the following Table of Maximum Gross Weights, for the respective distance, in feet, between the axle centers of the first and last axles of the group of two or more consecutive axles under consideration; except that in addition to the weights specified in

S2659 [1R]

that Table, two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall distance between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of tandem axles is 36 feet or more. The gross weight of each set of tandem axles shall not exceed 34,000 pounds and the combined gross weight of the two consecutive sets of tandem axles shall not exceed 68,000 pounds.

In all cases the combined gross weight for a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, or the maximum gross weight for any axle or combination of axles of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not exceed that which is permitted pursuant to this paragraph or R.S.39:3-84b.(2); R.S.39:3-84b.(3); or R.S.39:3-84b.(4) of this act, whichever is the lesser allowable gross weight.

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TABLE OF MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHTS

S2659 [1R]

1	26	44800	55500	59500	64000	69500	75000
2	27	44800	56000	60000	65000	70000	75500
3	28	44800	57000	60500	65500	71000	76500
4	29	44800	57500	61500	66000	71500	77000
5	30	44800	58500	62000	66500	72000	77500
6	31	44800	59000	62500	67500	72500	78000
7	32	44800	60000	63500	68000	73000	78500
8	33	44800	60500	64000	68500	74000	79000
9	34	44800	61500	64500	69000	74500	80000
10	35	44800	62000	65500	70000	75000	80000
11	36	44800	63000	66000	70500	75500	80000
12	37	44800	63500	66500	71000	76000	80000
13	38	44800	64500	67500	71500	77000	80000
14	39	44800	65000	68000	72500	77500	80000
15	40	44800	66000	68500	73000	78000	80000
16	41	44800	66500	69500	73500	78500	80000
17	42	44800	67200	70000	74000	79000	80000
18	43	44800	67200	70500	75000	80000	80000
19	44	44800	67200	71500	75500	80000	80000
20	45	44800	67200	72000	76000	80000	80000
21	46	44800	67200	72500	76500	80000	80000
22	47	44800	67200	73500	77500	80000	80000
23	48	44800	67200	74000	78000	80000	80000
24	49	44800	67200	74500	78500	80000	80000
25	50	44800	67200	75500	79000	80000	80000
26	51	44800	67200	76000	80000	80000	80000
27	52	44800	67200	76500	80000	80000	80000
28	53	44800	67200	77500	80000	80000	80000
29	54	44800	67200	78000	80000	80000	80000
30	55	44800	67200	78500	80000	80000	80000
31	56	44800	67200	79500	80000	80000	80000
32	57	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
33	58	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
34	59	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
35	60	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
36	61	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
37	62	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
38	63	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
39	64	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
40	65	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
41	66	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
42	67	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
43	68	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
44	69	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
45	70	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
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c. The dimensional and weight restrictions set forth herein shall not apply to a combination of vehicles which includes a disabled vehicle or a combination of vehicles being removed from

S2659 [1R]

a highway in this State, provided that such oversize or overweight vehicle combination may not travel on the public highways more than five miles from the point where such disablement occurred. If the disablement occurred on a limited access highway, the distance to the nearest exit of such highway shall be added to the five-mile limitation.

- d. The Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles may promulgate rules and regulations, including the establishment of fees, for the issuance, at his discretion and if good cause appears, of a special written permit authorizing the applicant:
- (1) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment, transporting one piece loads that cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided in order to comply with the weight limitations set forth in this act. The special written permit issued by the director shall be in the possession of the driver or operator of the vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment for which said permit was issued; and
- (2) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or specialized mobile equipment, transporting a load or cargo that cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided in order to comply with the dimensional limitations set forth in this act. The special written permit shall be in the possession of the driver or operator of the vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment for which the permit was issued; and
- (3) Under emergency conditions, to operate or move a type of vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight, including load or contents, which exceeds the maximum size or weight limitations specified in this act.
- (cf: P.L.1991,c.115,s.1)
 - 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

TRANSPORTATION

Prescribes 40-foot limitation for length of single unit commercial motor vehicle.

1	66	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
2	67	44800	67200	80000	00008	80000	80000
3	68	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
4	69	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
5	70	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000

- c. The dimensional and weight restrictions set forth herein shall not apply to a combination of vehicles which includes a disabled vehicle or a combination of vehicles being removed from a highway in this State, provided that such oversize or overweight vehicle combination may not travel on the public highways more than five miles from the point where such disablement occurred. If the disablement occurred on a limited access highway, the distance to the nearest exit of such highway shall be added to the five-mile limitation.
- d. The Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles may promulgate rules and regulations, including the establishment of fees, for the issuance, at his discretion and if good cause appears, of a special written permit authorizing the applicant:
- (1) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment, transporting one piece loads that cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided in order to comply with the weight limitations set forth in this act. The special written permit issued by the director shall be in the possession of the driver or operator of the vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment for which said permit was issued; and
- (2) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or specialized mobile equipment, transporting a load or cargo that cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided in order to comply with the dimensional limitations set forth in this act. The special written permit shall be in the possession of the driver or operator of the vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment for which the permit was issued; and
- (3) Under emergency conditions, to operate or move a type of vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a size or weight, including load or contents, which exceeds the maximum size or weight limitations specified in this act.

(cf: P.L.1989,c.47,s.1)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill provides for a 40-feet length limitation for single unit commercial motor vehicles, which is a change from the current 35-foot limitation. The only other state still at 35 feet is New York. Indiana permits 36 feet while the other states permit 40 feet or greater.

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2659

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 12, 1991

The Assembly Transportation Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 2659 of 1991, with committee amendments.

This bill provides for a length limitation of 40 feet for single unit commercial motor vehicles.

Current law limits the length of single unit commercial motor vehicles to 35 feet. All other states except Indiana, which permits 36 feet, permit 40 feet or greater.

The committee amendments made technical corrections to include in the bill's language changes in the law which have occurred since the bill was drafted.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2659

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 28, 1991

The Senate Transportation and Public Utilities Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 2659.

This bill provides for a 40-feet limitation for single unit commercial motor vehicles, which is a change from the current 35-feet limitation. All other states except Indiana, which permits 36 feet, permit 40 feet or greater.