

## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

**NJSA:** 39:4-75 (Vehicles-- overweight-- on bridges-- increase fines)

**LAWS OF:** 1987 **CHAPTER:** 315

**Bill No:** S2912

**Sponsor(s):** Graves and others

**Date Introduced:** January 13, 1987

**Committee:** **Assembly:** Transportation and Communications  
**Senate:** Law, Public Safety and Defense

**Amended during passage:** Yes Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks.

**Date of Passage:** **Assembly:** September 10, 1987  
**Senate:** March 9, 1987

**Date of Approval:** December 15, 1987

**Following statements are attached if available:**

**Sponsor statement:** Yes (Below)

**Committee statement:** **Assembly** Yes  
**Senate** Yes

**Fiscal Note:** No

**Veto Message:** No

**Message on Signing:** No

**Following were printed:**

**Reports:** No

**Hearings:** No

**Sponsors' statement:**

This bill increases from \$100.00 to \$1,000.00 the fine for driving an overweight commercial motor vehicle across a bridge which has a posted weight limit.

315

87

12-15-87

[SECOND OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

SENATE, No. 2912

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 13, 1987

By Senators GRAVES, BUBBA, HIRKALA and BASSANO

Referred to Committee on Law, Public Safety and Defense

AN ACT concerning overweight motor vehicles and amending R. S. 39:4-75.

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

1 1. R. S. 39:4-75 is amended to read as follows:

2 39:4-75. **\*\*a.\*\*** No **[commercial]** motor **[vehicles]** *\*vehicle\**  
3 shall be driven over a bridge in this State **[upon which or im-**  
4 **mediately adjacent thereto]** **[\*if\*** there is posted in a conspic-  
5 uous place *\*upon the bridge or immediately adjacent thereto and*  
6 *in a conspicuous place at the last available turnoff from the road*  
7 *leading to the bridge\** a sign stating the gross weight the bridge  
8 will carry,**]** **\*\* if the **[\*registered\*]** gross weight of the **[com-****  
9 **mercial]** vehicle **[\*or if the actual gross weight of the vehi-**  
10 **cle\*]** **\*\* and load is greater than the gross *\*posted\** weight**  
11 **[stated on the sign]** **\*\* limit of the bridge\*\*.**

12 **\*\*b.** *Signs warning persons driving motor vehicles that they are*  
13 *approaching a bridge with a maximum gross weight limit shall be*  
14 *posted in a conspicuous place upon the bridge or immediately ad-*  
15 *acent thereto and at the last safe exit or detour preceding the*  
16 *bridge. These signs shall indicate the maximum gross weight per-*  
17 *mitted on the bridge and shall be in accordance with the current*  
18 *standards prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control*  
19 *Devices for Streets and Highways. The signs required by this sec-*  
20 *tion shall be posted and maintained by the entity which has juris-*  
21 *isdiction over the bridge.\*\**

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

**Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:**

**\*—Senate committee amendments adopted February 19, 1987.**

**\*\*—Assembly committee amendments adopted June 29, 1987.**

22     *\*\*c.\*\** A person violating this section shall be subject to a fine not  
23 exceeding ~~【\$100.00】~~ \$1,000.00. In default of the payment thereof  
24 imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding 10 days  
25 shall be imposed.

26     The owner and operator of any vehicle used in violation of this  
27 section shall be responsible to the municipal or other corporation  
28 owning or maintaining such bridge, or to the State if such bridge  
29 is maintained by the State, for any damage done to the bridge by  
30 reason of the violation.

1     2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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MOTOR VEHICLE—OFFENSES

Increases fine for driving overweight motor vehicle over bridge.

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SENATE, No. 2912

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 13, 1987

By Senators GRAVES, BUBBA, HIRKALA and BASSANO

Referred to Committee on Law, Public Safety and Defense

AN ACT concerning overweight motor vehicles and amending R. S.  
39:4-75.

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

1 1. R. S. 39:4-75 is amended to read as follows:

2 39:4-75. No commercial motor vehicles shall be driven over a  
3 bridge in this State upon which or immediately adjacent thereto  
4 there is posted in a conspicuous place a sign stating the gross weight  
5 the bridge will carry, if the gross weight of the commercial vehicle  
6 and load is greater than the gross weight stated on the sign.

7 A person violating this section shall be subject to a fine not ex-  
8 ceeding **[\$100.00]** \$1,000.00. In default of the payment thereof  
9 imprisonment in the county jail for a period not exceeding 10 days  
10 shall be imposed.

11 The owner and operator of any vehicle used in violation of this  
12 section shall be responsible to the municipal or other corporation  
13 owning or maintaining such bridge, or to the State if such bridge  
14 is maintained by the State, for any damage done to the bridge by  
15 reason of the violation.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

This bill increases from \$100.00 to \$1,000.00 the fine for driving  
an overweight commercial motor vehicle across a bridge which has  
a posted weight limit.

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MOTOR VEHICLE—OFFENSES

Increases fine for driving certain overweight vehicles over a bridge.

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

ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS  
AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 2912**

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]

with Assembly committee amendments

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: JUN 29, 1987

The Assembly Transportation, Communications and High Technology Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2912 OCR with committee amendments.

This bill, as amended, imposes a \$1,000.00 fine for driving an overweight motor vehicle across a bridge which has signs posting the weight limits of the bridge in specific locations upon and nearby the bridge.

The bill, as amended by the committee, requires the warning signs to be placed at the last safe exit or detour preceding the bridge rather than at the last available turnoff from the road leading to the bridge, as specified in Senate Bill No. 2912 OCR. In addition, the committee amendments stipulate that these signs be posted and maintained by the entity which has jurisdiction over the bridge. Senate Bill No. 2912 OCR provided that a motor vehicle is in violation of this statute if the registered gross weight of the vehicle or the actual gross weight of the vehicle and load is greater than the gross weight stated on the sign. The committee amended the bill by removing the references to *registered* gross weight and *actual* gross weight and provided, instead, that a person driving a motor vehicle is in violation of this statute if the gross weight of the vehicle and load is greater than the gross posted weight limit of the bridge.

As amended by the committee, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 3610 with committee amendments adopted June 29, 1987.

SENATE LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEFENSE  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**SENATE, No. 2912**

with Senate committee amendments

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

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DATED: FEBRUARY 19, 1987

The Senate Law, Public Safety, and Defense Committee favorably reports Senate Bill 2912 with amendments.

As amended, this bill increases from \$100.00 to \$1,000.00 the fine for driving across a bridge a motor vehicle with a registered gross weight or with an actual weight plus load which is greater than the posted weight limit. Under current law, if the fine imposed for a violation of R. S. 39:4-75 is not paid, the violator will be imprisoned in the county jail for up to 10 days.

The committee amended the bill so that it would apply to all motor vehicles and not just commercial motor vehicles; to permit the use of the registered gross weight when the actual gross weight of the vehicle with its load cannot be readily determined; and to penalize a person under this section only when a weight limit for a bridge is posted at the last available turnoff from the road leading to the bridge, as well as on the bridge itself.