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[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3435**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**213th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 13, 2008

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman JOHN S. WISNIEWSKI**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Assemblyman VINCENT PRIETO**

**District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

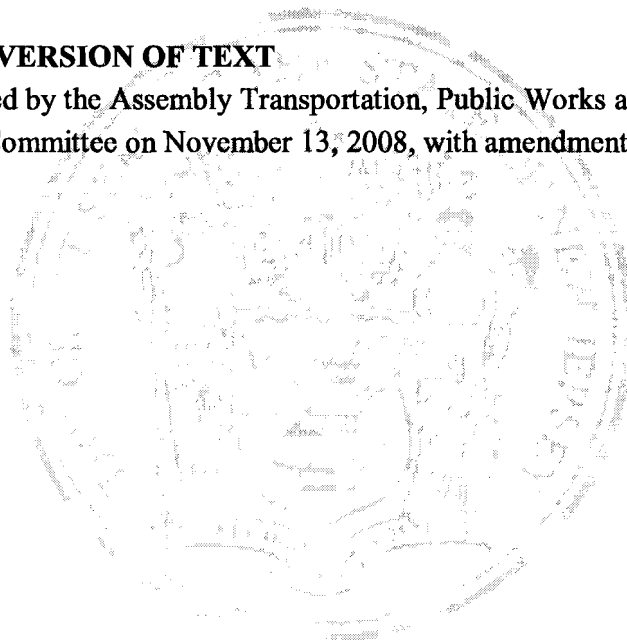
**Assemblymen Amodeo, Rudder, Rumana, Rumpf and Senator Sacco**

**SYNOPSIS**

Increases permitted axle weights for certain omnibuses with the approval of the Commissioner of Transportation.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly Transportation, Public Works and Independent Authorities Committee on November 13, 2008, with amendments.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/16/2008)**

1 AN ACT concerning axle weights for certain omnibuses and  
2 amending R.S.39:3-84.

3

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

6

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

8 39:3-84. a. The following constitute the maximum dimensional  
9 limits for width, height and length for any vehicle or combination of  
10 vehicles, including load or contents or any part or portion thereof,  
11 found or operated on any public road, street or highway or any  
12 public or quasi-public property in this State. Violations shall be  
13 enforced pursuant to subsection i. of section 5 of P.L.1950, c.142  
14 (C.39:3-84.3).

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

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

35 As used herein and pursuant to R.S.39:1-1, the term "vehicle"  
36 includes, but is not limited to, commercial motor vehicles, trucks,  
37 truck tractors, tractors, road tractors, recreation vehicles, or  
38 omnibuses. As used herein and pursuant to R.S.39:1-1, the term  
39 "combination of vehicles" includes, but is not limited to, vehicles as  
40 heretofore designated, when those vehicles are the drawing or  
41 power unit of a combination of vehicles and motor-drawn vehicles,  
42 such as, but not limited to, trailers, semi-trailers, or other vehicles.  
43 As used herein, the term "recycling vehicle" means a commercial  
44 motor vehicle used for the collection or transportation of recyclable

**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 underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly ATR committee amendments adopted November 13, 2008.

1 material; or any truck, trailer or other vehicle approved by the New  
2 Jersey Office of Recycling for use by persons engaging in the  
3 business of recycling or otherwise providing recycling services in  
4 this State; and "recyclable material" means those materials which  
5 would otherwise become solid waste, and which may be collected,  
6 separated or processed and returned to the economic mainstream in  
7 the form of raw materials or products.

8 (1) The maximum outside width of any vehicle or combination  
9 of vehicles, including load or contents of any part or portion  
10 thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall be no  
11 more than 102 inches; except that the Commissioner of  
12 Transportation, after consultation with the Chief Administrator of  
13 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and the Superintendent  
14 of State Police, may promulgate rules and regulations for those  
15 public roads, streets or highways or public or quasi-public property  
16 in this State, where it is determined that the interests of public  
17 safety and welfare require the maximum outside width be no more  
18 than 96 inches.

19 (2) The maximum height of any vehicle or combination of  
20 vehicles, including load or contents of any part or portion thereof,  
21 except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall not exceed 13  
22 feet, 6 inches.

23 (3) The maximum overall length of any vehicle, as set forth in  
24 this subsection, including load or contents or any part or portion  
25 thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection, shall not  
26 exceed 40 feet, except that the overall length of a vehicle, including  
27 load or contents or any part or portion thereof, otherwise subject to  
28 the provisions of this paragraph shall not exceed 50 feet when  
29 transporting poles, pilings, structural units or other articles which  
30 cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided. When a vehicle,  
31 subject to this paragraph, is the drawing or power unit of a  
32 combination of vehicles, as set forth in this subsection, the overall  
33 length of the combination of vehicles, including load or contents or  
34 any part or portion thereof, shall not exceed 62 feet. The provisions  
35 of this paragraph shall not apply to omnibuses, recreation vehicles,  
36 or to vehicles which are not designed, built or otherwise capable of  
37 carrying cargo or loads.

38 (4) The maximum overall length of a motor-drawn vehicle, as  
39 set forth in this subsection, including load or contents or any part or  
40 portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection,  
41 shall not exceed 53 feet when operated as part of a combination of  
42 vehicles consisting of one motor-drawn vehicle and a drawing or  
43 power unit vehicle not designed, built or otherwise capable of  
44 carrying cargo or loads, except that a motor-drawn vehicle, the  
45 overall length of which is greater than 48 feet and not more than 53  
46 feet, shall be constructed so that the distance between the kingpin of  
47 the motor-drawn vehicle and the centerline of its rear axle or rear  
48 axle group does not exceed 41 feet; the motor-drawn vehicle shall

1 be equipped with a rear-end protection device of substantial  
2 construction consisting of a continuous lateral beam extending to  
3 within four inches of the lateral extremities of the motor-drawn  
4 vehicle and located not more than 22 inches from the surface as  
5 measured with the vehicle empty and on a level surface; the kingpin  
6 of the trailer shall not be set back further than 3.5 feet from the  
7 front of the semitrailer; the rear overhang, measured from the center  
8 of the rear tandem axles to the rear of the semitrailer shall not  
9 exceed 35% of the semitrailer's wheelbase; the width of the  
10 semitrailer and the distance between the outside edges of the trailer  
11 tires shall be 102 inches; and the vehicle shall be equipped with  
12 such reflectorization, including but not limited to side-marker  
13 reflectorization strips located between the rear axle and the rear of  
14 the motor-drawn vehicle, as shall be prescribed by the Motor  
15 Vehicle Commission, and as is consistent with any applicable  
16 federal standards concerning reflectorization. The overall length of  
17 a motor-drawn vehicle otherwise subject to the provisions of this  
18 paragraph shall not exceed 63 feet when transporting poles, pilings,  
19 structural units or other articles that cannot be dismembered,  
20 dismantled or divided. The provisions of this paragraph shall not  
21 apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles designed, built and  
22 utilized solely to transport other motor vehicles. The Commissioner  
23 of Transportation, after consultation with the Chief Administrator  
24 of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and the  
25 Superintendent of State Police, shall promulgate rules and  
26 regulations specifying those portions or parts of the National  
27 System of Interstate and Defense Highways, Federal-aid Primary  
28 System Highways and public roads, streets, highways, toll roads,  
29 freeways or parkways in this State where the combination of  
30 vehicles as described in this paragraph may lawfully operate. The  
31 commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations within 120  
32 days after the effective date of this amendatory act to identify a  
33 network of roads with reasonable access for motor-drawn vehicles  
34 greater than 48 feet in length but not more than 53 feet in length.  
35 The commissioner shall, in establishing this network, consider all  
36 portions of the network for 48 foot long and 102 inch wide motor-  
37 drawn vehicles and specify those routes or portions thereof where  
38 motor-drawn vehicles greater than 48 feet in length but not more  
39 than 53 feet in length shall be excluded from lawful operation for  
40 reasons of safety.

41 (5) No combination of vehicles, including load or contents,  
42 consisting of more than two motor-drawn vehicles, as set forth in  
43 this subsection, and any other vehicle, shall be found or operated on  
44 any public road, street or highway or any public or quasi-public  
45 property in this State.

46 (6) The maximum overall length of a motor-drawn vehicle, as  
47 set forth in this section, including load or contents or any part or  
48 portion thereof, except as otherwise provided by this subsection,

1 when operated as part of a combination of vehicles consisting of  
2 two motor-drawn vehicles and a drawing or power unit vehicle  
3 which is not designed, built or otherwise capable of carrying cargo  
4 or loads, shall not exceed 28 feet for each motor-drawn vehicle in  
5 the combination of vehicles. The provision of this paragraph shall  
6 not apply to any vehicle or combination of vehicles designed, built  
7 and utilized solely to transport other motor vehicles. The  
8 Commissioner of Transportation, after consultation with the Chief  
9 Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and  
10 the Superintendent of State Police, shall promulgate rules and  
11 regulations specifying those portions or parts of the National  
12 System of Interstate and Defense Highways, Federal-aid Primary  
13 System Highways and public roads, streets, highways, toll roads,  
14 freeways or parkways in this State where combinations of vehicles  
15 as described in this paragraph may lawfully operate.

16 (7) The maximum length and outside width of an omnibus found  
17 or operated in this State shall be established by rules and  
18 regulations promulgated by the Commissioner of Transportation,  
19 after consultation with the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey  
20 Motor Vehicle Commission and the Superintendent of State Police.  
21 Unless otherwise specified in the aforesaid rules and regulations,  
22 the maximum outside width shall be 102 inches; any other  
23 dimension established for width in the aforesaid rules and  
24 regulations shall be based upon a determination that operation of an  
25 omnibus with a width of less than 102 inches, but no less than 96  
26 inches is required in the interest of public safety on those public  
27 roads, streets, highways, toll roads, freeways, parkways or the  
28 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways in this State  
29 specified in the aforesaid rules and regulations, or that operation of  
30 an omnibus with a width greater than 102 inches is not unsafe on  
31 those public roads, streets, highways, toll roads, freeways,  
32 parkways or the National System of Interstate and Defense  
33 Highways in this State specified in the aforesaid rules and  
34 regulations.

35 (8) The maximum width and length of farm tractors and traction  
36 equipment and farm machinery and implements shall be established  
37 by rules and regulations promulgated by the Chief Administrator of  
38 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission. The operation of the  
39 aforesaid vehicles shall be subject to the provisions of R.S.39:3-24  
40 and they shall not be operated on any highway which is part of the  
41 National System of Interstate and Defense Highways or on any  
42 highway which has been designated a freeway or parkway as  
43 provided by law.

44 (9) The maximum outside width of the cargo or load of a  
45 vehicle or combination of vehicles, including farm trucks, loaded  
46 with hay or straw shall not exceed 105 1/2 inches, but the maximum  
47 outside width of the vehicle or combination of vehicles, including  
48 farm trucks, shall otherwise comply with the provisions of

1 paragraph (1) of this subsection. The Commissioner of  
2 Transportation, after consultation with the Chief Administrator of  
3 the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and the Superintendent  
4 of State Police, may promulgate rules and regulations establishing a  
5 maximum outside width of 102 inches for the aforesaid cargo or  
6 load when operating on those highways where a greater width is  
7 prohibited by operation of law.

8 (10) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (4) and (6) of  
9 this subsection pertaining to length, the Chief Administrator of the  
10 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission may adopt rules and  
11 regulations specifying maximum length dimensions for any vehicle  
12 or combination of vehicles designed, built and utilized solely to  
13 transport other motor vehicles.

14 (11) The provisions of this subsection pertaining to length shall  
15 not apply to a vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile  
16 equipment operated by a public utility, as defined in R.S.48:2-13,  
17 when that vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile  
18 equipment is used by the public utility in the construction,  
19 reconstruction, repair or maintenance of its property or facilities.

20 (12) The provisions of this subsection pertaining to width shall  
21 not apply to a recycling vehicle when that vehicle is used for the  
22 collection of recyclable material on a street or highway other than a  
23 highway which is designated part of the National System of  
24 Interstate and Defense Highways in this State or as a freeway or  
25 parkway as provided by law. The maximum outside width of any  
26 recycling vehicle so used, including load or contents of any part or  
27 portion thereof, shall be no more than 96 inches, except that the  
28 width may be up to 105 inches whenever that vehicle is operating at  
29 15 miles per hour or less, and access steps are deployed and  
30 recyclable materials are actually being collected.

31 (13) The maximum overall length of a recreation vehicle  
32 including any load or truck camper thereon found or operated in this  
33 State shall not exceed 45 feet and no combination of a recreation  
34 vehicle with any vehicle, including the load thereon, nor any  
35 combination of any motor vehicle with any camping trailer, fifth  
36 wheel trailer or park trailer attached thereto, as these terms are  
37 defined in section 1 of P.L.1991, c.483 (C.46:8C-10), shall exceed  
38 65 feet in length. Further, the outside width of a recreation vehicle  
39 found or operated in this State shall not exceed 102 inches,  
40 excluding safety appurtenances such as awnings and lights which  
41 are integral to the construction of the vehicle, installed by the  
42 vehicle's manufacturer or dealer, and do not extend more than three  
43 inches wide on each side of the vehicle, provided however, that  
44 such vehicles permissibly exceeding the 102 inch width with their  
45 attached equipment or appurtenances shall only be operated:

46 (a) On roadways having travel lanes at least 11 feet in width,  
47 unless prohibited by the Department of Transportation or by a



1 municipality based on safety reasons and marked with signs  
2 prohibiting such vehicles; or

3 (b) On any roadway of the State when such a vehicle is being  
4 operated between roadways permitted under subparagraph (a) of  
5 this paragraph; and

6 (i) The location where the recreation vehicle, fifth wheel trailer,  
7 park trailer, camping trailer or truck camper is garaged; or

8 (ii) The destination of the recreation vehicle, fifth wheel trailer,  
9 park trailer, camping trailer or truck camper; or

10 (iii) A facility for food, fuel, repair, services or rest.

11 b. No vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or  
12 contents, found or operated on any public road, street or highway or  
13 any public or quasi-public property in this State shall exceed the  
14 weight limitations set forth in this Title. Violations shall be  
15 enforced pursuant to subsection j. of section 5 of P.L.1950, c.142  
16 (C.39:3-84.3).

17 Where enforcement of a weight limit provision of this Title  
18 requires a measurement of length between axle centers, the distance  
19 between axle centers shall be measured to the nearest whole foot or  
20 whole inch, whichever is applicable, and when the measurement  
21 includes a fractional part of a foot equaling six inches or more or a  
22 fractional part of an inch equaling one-half inch or more, the next  
23 larger whole foot or whole inch, whichever is applicable, shall be  
24 utilized. The term "tandem axle" as used in this act is defined as a  
25 combination of consecutive axles, consisting of only two axles,  
26 where the distance between axle centers is 40 inches or more but no  
27 more than 96 inches.

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

37 (1) The gross weight imposed on the highway or other surface  
38 by the wheels of any one axle of a vehicle or combination of  
39 vehicles, including load or contents, shall not exceed 22,400  
40 pounds; provided, however, that notwithstanding any provision of  
41 this section or any other law, rule, or '[rule] regulation' to the  
42 contrary, any vehicle, registered as an omnibus pursuant to  
43 R.S.39:3-19 '[and engaged in the provisions of motorbus regular  
44 route service pursuant to P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-1 et seq.) or any  
45 vehicle operating with a valid certificate of public convenience and  
46 necessity pursuant to R.S.48:4-3,]' having an axle weight greater  
47 than that provided for in this paragraph ', ' may '[provide such

1 service] operate<sup>1</sup> with the approval of the Commissioner of  
2 Transportation consistent with federal law and regulation.

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

8 (2) The gross weight imposed on the highway or other surface  
9 by all the wheels of all consecutive axles of a vehicle or  
10 combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not  
11 exceed 34,000 pounds where the distance between consecutive axle  
12 centers is 40 inches or more, but no more than 96 inches apart.

13 (3) The combined gross weight imposed on the highway or other  
14 surface by all the wheels of consecutive axles of a vehicle or  
15 combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall not  
16 exceed 22,400 pounds for each single axle where the distance  
17 between consecutive axle centers is more than 96 inches; except  
18 that on any highway in this State which is part of, or designated as  
19 part of, the National Interstate System, as provided at 23 U.S.C.  
20 s.103(c), this single axle limitation shall not apply and in those  
21 instances the provisions of this Title as set forth at R.S.39:3-84b.(5)  
22 shall apply.

23 (4) The maximum total gross weight imposed on the highway or  
24 other surface by a vehicle or combination of vehicles, including  
25 load or contents, shall not exceed 80,000 pounds.

26 (5) On any highway in this State which is part of, or designated  
27 as part of, the National Interstate System, as provided at 23 U.S.C.  
28 s.103(c), the total gross weight, in pounds, imposed on the highway  
29 or other surface by any group of two or more consecutive axles of a  
30 vehicle or combination of vehicles, including load or contents, shall  
31 not exceed that listed in the following Table of Maximum Gross  
32 Weights, for the respective distance, in feet, between the axle  
33 centers of the first and last axles of the group of two or more  
34 consecutive axles under consideration; except that in addition to the  
35 weights specified in that Table, two consecutive sets of tandem  
36 axles may carry a gross weight of 34,000 pounds each if the overall  
37 distance between the first and last axles of the consecutive sets of  
38 tandem axles is 36 feet or more. The gross weight of each set of  
39 tandem axles shall not exceed 34,000 pounds and the combined  
40 gross weight of the two consecutive sets of tandem axles shall not  
41 exceed 68,000 pounds.

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

1 TABLE OF MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHTS

2

3 Distance in feet  
 4 between axle  
 5 centers of first  
 6 and last axles  
 7 of any group  
 8 of two or more  
 9 consecutive axles

10

11 2 3 4 5 6 7

12

13 axles axles axles axles axles axles

14

15 3 22400 22400 22400 22400 22400 22400

16

17 4 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000

18

19 5 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000

20

21 6 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000

22

23 7 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000

24

25 8 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000 34000

26

27 9 39000 42500 42500 42500 42500 42500

28

29 10 40000 43500 43500 43500 43500 43500

30

31 11 41000 44000 44000 44000 44000 44000

32

33 12 42000 45000 50000 50000 50000 50000

34

35 13 43000 45500 50500 50500 50500 50500

36

37 14 44000 46500 51500 51500 51500 51500

38

39 15 44800 47000 52000 52000 52000 52000

40

41 16 44800 48000 52500 58000 58000 58000

42

43 17 44800 48500 53500 58500 58500 58500

44

45 18 44800 49500 54000 59000 59000 59000

46

47 19 44800 50000 54500 60000 60000 60000

A3435 [1R] WISNIEWSKI, PRIETO

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1	20	44800	51000	55500	60500	66000	66000
2							
3	21	44800	51500	56000	61000	66500	66500
4							
5	22	44800	52500	56500	61500	67000	67000
6							
7	23	44800	53000	57500	62500	68000	68000
8							
9	24	44800	54000	58000	63000	68500	74000
10							
11	25	44800	54500	58500	63500	69000	74500
12							
13	26	44800	55500	59500	64000	69500	75000
14							
15	27	44800	56000	60000	65000	70000	75500
16							
17	28	44800	57000	60500	65500	71000	76500
18							
19	29	44800	57500	61500	66000	71500	77000
20							
21	30	44800	58500	62000	66500	72000	77500
22							
23	31	44800	59000	62500	67500	72500	78000
24							
25	32	44800	60000	63500	68000	73000	78500
26							
27	33	44800	60500	64000	68500	74000	79000
28							
29	34	44800	61500	64500	69000	74500	80000
30							
31	35	44800	62000	65500	70000	75000	80000
32							
33	36	44800	63000	66000	70500	75500	80000
34							
35	37	44800	63500	66500	71000	76000	80000
36							
37	38	44800	64500	67500	71500	77000	80000
38							
39	39	44800	65000	68000	72500	77500	80000
40							
41	40	44800	66000	68500	73000	78000	80000
42							
43	41	44800	66500	69500	73500	78500	80000
44							
45	42	44800	67200	70000	74000	79000	80000
46							
47	43	44800	67200	70500	75000	80000	80000

A3435 [1R] WISNIEWSKI, PRIETO

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1	44	44800	67200	71500	75500	80000	80000
2							
3	45	44800	67200	72000	76000	80000	80000
4							
5	46	44800	67200	72500	76500	80000	80000
6							
7	47	44800	67200	73500	77500	80000	80000
8							
9	48	44800	67200	74000	78000	80000	80000
10							
11	49	44800	67200	74500	78500	80000	80000
12							
13	50	44800	67200	75500	79000	80000	80000
14							
15	51	44800	67200	76000	80000	80000	80000
16							
17	52	44800	67200	76500	80000	80000	80000
18							
19	53	44800	67200	77500	80000	80000	80000
20							
21	54	44800	67200	78000	80000	80000	80000
22							
23	55	44800	67200	78500	80000	80000	80000
24							
25	56	44800	67200	79500	80000	80000	80000
26							
27	57	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
28							
29	58	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
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31	59	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
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33	60	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
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35	61	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000
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46							
47	67	44800	67200	80000	80000	80000	80000

1 68 44800 67200 80000 80000 80000 80000

2

3 69 44800 67200 80000 80000 80000 80000

4

5 70 44800 67200 80000 80000 80000 80000

6

7 c. The dimensional and weight restrictions set forth herein  
8 shall not apply to a combination of vehicles which includes a  
9 disabled vehicle or a combination of vehicles being removed from a  
10 highway in this State, provided that such oversize or overweight  
11 vehicle combination may not travel on the public highways more  
12 than 75 miles from the point where such disablement occurred. If  
13 the disablement occurred on a limited access highway, the distance  
14 to the nearest exit of such highway shall be added to the 75-mile  
15 limitation. A heavy-duty tow truck, as defined in section 1 of  
16 P.L.1999, c.396 (C.39:3-84.6), shall be permitted, in combination  
17 with the towed unit or units, to exceed the axle, dimensional and  
18 maximum gross weight limits for tow trucks and towed unit  
19 combinations; except that the limit shall not exceed 150,000 pounds  
20 gross combined weight. This provision shall not affect the  
21 application of section 6 of P.L.1950, c.142 (C.39:3-84.4)  
22 concerning driver liability for damages and does not provide an  
23 exemption to exceed the height and weight restrictions marked or  
24 posted on a bridge or overpass in the State. A heavy-duty tow truck  
25 in combination with the towed unit or units shall not be operated at  
26 a speed greater than 45 miles per hour when the heavy-duty tow  
27 truck in combination with the towed unit or units weighs more than  
28 80,000 pounds, or one or more of its axles exceeds the limitations  
29 prescribed herein in the Table of Maximum Gross Weights, or the  
30 tow truck in combination with the towed unit exceeds maximum  
31 length and width standards as prescribed by law.

32 d. The Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle  
33 Commission may promulgate rules and regulations, including the  
34 establishment of fees, for the issuance, at his discretion and if good  
35 cause appears, of a special written permit authorizing the applicant:

36 (1) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or  
37 special mobile equipment, transporting one piece loads that cannot  
38 be dismembered, dismantled or divided in order to comply with the  
39 weight limitations set forth in this act. The special written permit  
40 issued by the director shall be in the possession of the driver or  
41 operator of the vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile  
42 equipment for which said permit was issued; and

43 (2) To operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles or  
44 specialized mobile equipment, transporting a load or cargo that  
45 cannot be dismembered, dismantled or divided in order to comply  
46 with the dimensional limitations set forth in this act. The special  
47 written permit shall be in the possession of the driver or operator of

1 the vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment  
2 for which the permit was issued; and

3 (3) Under emergency conditions, to operate or move a type of  
4 vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a  
5 size or weight, including load or contents, which exceeds the  
6 maximum size or weight limitations specified in this act.

7 e. If the Commissioner of Transportation has, by regulations  
8 adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,  
9 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), designated certain routes within the  
10 State for use by a combination of vehicles with a prescribed  
11 maximum width or length or consisting of a drawing vehicle and  
12 two motor drawn vehicles with a prescribed maximum length, no  
13 such combination of vehicles shall be found or operated on any  
14 other public road, street or highway or any other public or quasi-  
15 public property in this State, unless otherwise permitted by such  
16 regulations.

17 (cf: P.L.2007, c.249, s.1)

18

19 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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2 for which the permit was issued; and

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4 vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a  
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15 public property in this State, unless otherwise permitted by such  
16 regulations.

17 (cf: P.L.2007, c.249, s.1)

18

19 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

20

21

22 SPONSOR'S STATEMENT

23

24 This bill would permit increased axle weight limits, consistent  
25 with federal law and regulations, for vehicles registered as  
26 omnibuses and engaged in the provision of motorbus regular route  
27 service pursuant to P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-1 et seq.), with the  
28 approval of the Commissioner of Transportation. Current axle  
29 weight limitations make the use of low-floor buses problematic in  
30 New Jersey. Increasing the axle weights on some routes in this  
31 State would allow the New Jersey Transit Corporation to purchase  
32 and use modern, low-floor buses in providing public transportation  
33 services in the State of New Jersey. Low-floor buses provide  
34 increased capacity on the buses and allow for easier and quicker  
35 access for those embarking and disembarking the bus, especially for  
36 senior citizens and individuals with disabilities.



ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION, PUBLIC WORKS AND  
INDEPENDENT AUTHORITIES COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 3435**

with committee amendments

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: NOVEMBER 13, 2008

The Assembly Transportation, Public Works and Independent Authorities Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 3435.

As reported, this amended bill would permit increased axle weight limits, consistent with federal law and regulations, for vehicles registered as omnibuses with the approval of the Commissioner of Transportation. Current axle weight limitations make the use of low-floor buses problematic in New Jersey. Increasing the axle weights on some routes in this State would allow the New Jersey Transit Corporation to purchase and use modern, low-floor buses in providing public transportation services in the State of New Jersey. Low-floor buses provide increased capacity on the buses and allow for easier and quicker access for those embarking and disembarking the bus, especially for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to remove provisions limiting the scope of the authorization of increased axle weight to registered New Jersey Transit omnibuses operating in motorbus regular route service and autobus, special bus, and charter bus operations with a valid certificate of public convenience and necessity.

The committee made a technical amendment to correct the grammar in the bill.

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2 for which the permit was issued; and

3 (3) Under emergency conditions, to operate or move a type of  
4 vehicle or combination of vehicles or special mobile equipment of a  
5 size or weight, including load or contents, which exceeds the  
6 maximum size or weight limitations specified in this act.

7 e. If the Commissioner of Transportation has, by regulations  
8 adopted pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,  
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11 maximum width or length or consisting of a drawing vehicle and  
12 two motor drawn vehicles with a prescribed maximum length, no  
13 such combination of vehicles shall be found or operated on any  
14 other public road, street or highway or any other public or quasi-  
15 public property in this State, unless otherwise permitted by such  
16 regulations.

17 (cf: P.L.2007, c.249, s.1)

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22 SPONSOR'S STATEMENT

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24 This bill would permit increased axle weight limits, consistent  
25 with federal law and regulations, for vehicles registered as  
26 omnibuses and engaged in the provision of motorbus regular route  
27 service pursuant to P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-1 et seq.), with the  
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34 increased capacity on the buses and allow for easier and quicker  
35 access for those embarking and disembarking the bus, especially for  
36 senior citizens and individuals with disabilities.

# SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 2346**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: NOVEMBER 13, 2008

The Senate Transportation reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 2346.

As reported, this amended bill would permit increased axle weight limits, consistent with federal law and regulations, for vehicles registered as omnibuses with the approval of the Commissioner of Transportation. Current axle weight limitations make the use of low-floor buses problematic in New Jersey. Increasing the axle weights on some routes in this State would allow the New Jersey Transit Corporation to purchase and use modern, low-floor buses in providing public transportation services in the State of New Jersey. Low-floor buses provide increased capacity on the buses and allow for easier and quicker access for those embarking and disembarking the bus, especially for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities.

The committee amended the bill to remove provisions limiting the scope of the authorization of increased axle weight to registered New Jersey Transit omnibuses operating in motorbus regular route service and autobus, special bus, and charter bus operations with a valid certificate of public convenience and necessity.

The committee made a technical amendment to correct the grammar in the bill.