
Senate Fiscal Agency
P. O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536



Telephone: (517) 373-5383
Fax: (517) 373-1986
TDD: (517) 373-0543

House Bill 5205 (as reported without amendment)
Sponsor: Representative Judson Gilbert
House Committee: Transportation
Senate Committee: Transportation and Tourism

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to increase from two to three axles, the maximum number allowed for operation of a semitrailer longer than 50 feet on State highways; and to specify that all semitrailers longer than 50 feet would have to have a wheelbase of 37.5 to 40.5 feet, instead of 40.5 feet, plus or minus 0.5 foot.

The Code prescribes "normal length" maximums for a variety of vehicles and combinations of vehicles that may travel on certain designated State highways. There is no overall length limit for truck tractor and semitrailer combinations, but the semitrailer must not exceed 53 feet. All semitrailers longer than 50 feet must have a wheelbase of 40.5 feet, plus or minus 0.5 foot, measured from the kingpin coupling to the center of the tandem axle assembly equipped with two axles. The bill would require the wheelbase to be 37.5 feet to 40.5 feet, plus or minus 0.5 foot, measured from the kingpin coupling to the center of the rear axle or the center of the rear axle assembly.

Currently, a semitrailer longer than 50 feet must not operate with more than two axles on the semitrailer. The bill would prohibit operation with more than three axles.

MCL 257.719

Legislative Analyst: Nobuko Nagata

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 2-5-02

Fiscal Analyst: Bruce Baker