

# Legislative Analysis

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## SEMITRAILER WHEELBASE LENGTH RESTRICTIONS

Phone: (517) 373-8080  
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

**House Bill 4956 as introduced**  
**Sponsor: Rep. Triston Cole**  
**Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure**  
**Complete to 10-16-17**

Analysis available at  
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

### SUMMARY:

House Bill 4956 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to delete wheelbase length restrictions on certain semitrailers.

Under the Code, certain vehicles and combinations of vehicles are prohibited from operating on a designated highway in Michigan in excess of statutory vehicle length maximums.

The bill would delete wheelbase length requirements for semitrailers greater than 50 feet in length (generally, semitrailers may not exceed 53 feet in length). Currently for a semitrailer greater than 50 feet, the wheelbase must be between 37.5 and 40.5 feet, plus or minus 0.5 feet, measured from the kingpin coupling to the center of either the rear axle or rear axle assembly.

Also, the bill would remove restrictions on lowboy semitrailer wheelbase lengths, which currently must be at least 55 feet measured from the kingpin coupling to the center of the rear axle.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The bill has no apparent fiscal impact on the state or local units of government.

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.