

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 950

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILDER

TRANSPORTATION: Provides relative to towing vehicle and axle weight limits

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:386(C), (D), (E), and (K), relative to vehicle weight limits;
3 to provide for an exception to vehicle weight and axle limits when a Louisiana
4 licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle tow; and to provide for related
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 32:386(C), (D), (E), and (K) are hereby amended and reenacted to
8 read as follows:

9 §386. Weight

10 * * *

11 C. The total gross weight of any single axle attached to any vehicle and
12 equipped with low pressure pneumatic tires shall not exceed twenty thousand
13 pounds, except when a Louisiana licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle
14 tow the weight limitation shall be twenty-two thousand pounds while operating on
15 any state-maintained highway except on the Interstate System.

16 D. The total gross weight of any tandem axle or tandem steering axle attached
17 to any vehicle and equipped with low pressure pneumatic tires shall not exceed
18 thirty-four thousand pounds, except when a Louisiana licensed towing company is
19 engaged in a vehicle tow the weight limitation shall be thirty-seven thousand pounds
20 while operating on any state-maintained highway except on the Interstate System.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 950 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Wilder

Abstract: Provides for an exception to vehicle and axle weight limits for Louisiana licensed towing companies engaged in a vehicle tow.

Present law provides the total gross weight of any single axle attached to any vehicle and equipped with low pressure pneumatic tires cannot exceed 20,000 pounds.

Proposed law excepts the provisions of present law (R.S. 32:386(C)) when a La. licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle tow, during which the weight limitation can be 22,000 pounds while on state-maintained highways except for the Interstate System.

Present law provides the total gross weight of any tandem axle attached to any vehicle and equipped with low pressure pneumatic tires cannot exceed 34,000 pounds.

Proposed law excepts the provisions of present law (R.S. 32:386(D)) when a La. licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle tow, during which the weight limitation can be 37,000 pounds while on state-maintained highways except for the Interstate System.

Present law provides the total gross weight of any tridum axle attached to any vehicle and equipped with low pressure pneumatic tires cannot exceed 42,000 pounds.

Proposed law excepts the provisions of present law (R.S. 32:386(E)(1)) when a La. licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle tow, during which the weight limitation can be 45,000 pounds while on state-maintained highways except for the Interstate System.

Present law provides the total gross weight of any quadrum axle attached to any vehicle and equipped with low pressure pneumatic tires cannot exceed 50,000 pounds.

Proposed law excepts the provisions of present law (R.S. 32:386(E)(2)) when a La. licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle tow, during which the weight limitation can be 53,000 pounds while on state-maintained highways except for the Interstate System.

Present law provides vehicles and combinations of vehicles must be loaded so that the axle limitations set forth in present law are not exceeded, except on state-maintained highways, excluding the Interstate System, when the axle weight exceeds by more than 2,000 pounds for present law (R.S. 32:386(C) and (F)) and 3,000 pounds for present law (R.S. 32:386(D), (E), and (G)).

Proposed law excepts the provisions of present law (R.S. 32:386(C)) when a La. licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle tow.

(Amends R.S. 32:386(C), (D), (E), and (K))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Change provision from when a towing company is engaged in a consensual vehicle tow with the agreement of the owner from private property to when a Louisiana licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle tow.
2. Add weight limitations to the exceptions in proposed law (22,000 pounds applicable to single axle vehicles) and provide that the exceptions are applicable on state-maintained highways except for the Interstate System.
3. Add additional provisions to allow for exceptions when a Louisiana licensed towing company is engaged in a vehicle tow, to provide weight limitations (37,000 pounds applicable to tandem axle vehicles; 45,000 pounds applicable to tridum axle vehicles; and 53,000 pounds applicable to quadrum axle vehicles), and to provide for applicability of the exceptions on state-maintained highways except for the Interstate System.
4. Make technical changes.