

House Bill 301

By: Representatives Benton of the 31st, Rogers of the 26th, Roberts of the 154th, Cooke of the 18th, Hanner of the 148th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 32-6-26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 maximum weights for vehicles and loads, so as to allow a variance for certain vehicles; to
3 provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and
4 for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Code Section 32-6-26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the maximum
8 weights for vehicles and loads, is amended by revising subsection (g) as follows:

9 "(g)(1) The weight limitations provided for in this Code section, except the limitation in
10 subsections (f) and (h) of this Code section, may be exceeded on any public road within
11 this state which is not an interstate highway, or when making a pickup or delivery on any
12 public road of a county road system, without a permit only when the load on any single
13 axle does not exceed 23,000 pounds, the load on any tandem axle does not exceed 46,000
14 pounds, and the maximum total gross weight of the vehicle and load does not exceed
15 80,000 pounds when:

16 (A) Hauling forest products from the forest where cut to the first point of marketing or
17 processing;

18 (B) Hauling live poultry or cotton from a farm to a processing plant;

19 (C) Hauling feed from a feed mill to a farm;

20 (D) Hauling granite, either block or sawed, or any other naturally occurring raw ore or
21 mineral for further processing, from the quarry or stockpile area to a processing plant
22 located in the same or an adjoining county and construction aggregates hauled to any
23 point, unless otherwise prohibited;

24 (E) Hauling solid waste or recovered materials from points of generation to a solid
25 waste handling facility or other processing facility; or

26 (F) Hauling concrete that is in a freshly mixed and unhardened state for delivery to a
27 customer; or

28 (G) Hauling organic poultry waste from the point of origin to a farm.

29 No lift axle may be used in computing the maximum total gross weight authorized for
30 any vehicle or load under this paragraph.

31 (2) A vehicle which is hauling the products listed in subparagraph (A) or (B) of
32 paragraph (1) of this subsection or which is hauling any other agricultural or farm product
33 from a farm to the first point of marketing or processing shall be permitted a 5 percent
34 variance from the weight limitations in paragraph (1) of this subsection within a 100 mile
35 radius of the farm or point of origin. Any person who violates the load limitations
36 provided for in this paragraph by exceeding the 5 percent variance per single axle,
37 tandem axle, or maximum total gross weight shall be fined on the basis of the weight
38 limitations of paragraph (1) of this subsection, including the variance allowed by this
39 paragraph.

40 (3) A vehicle which is hauling the products listed in subparagraph (C), (D), or (F) of
41 paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be permitted a 5 percent variance from the weight
42 limitations in paragraph (1) of this subsection within a 100 mile radius of the farm or
43 point of origin. Any person who violates the load limitations provided for in this
44 paragraph by exceeding the 5 percent variance per single axle, tandem axle, or maximum
45 total gross weight shall be fined on the basis of the weight limitations of paragraph (1)
46 of this subsection and not on the basis of the variance allowed by this paragraph.

47 (4) A vehicle which is hauling the products listed in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1)
48 of this subsection shall be permitted a 10 percent variance from the weight limitations in
49 paragraph (1) of this subsection. Any person who violates the load limitations provided
50 for in this paragraph by exceeding the 10 percent variance per single axle, tandem axle,
51 or maximum total gross weight shall be fined on the basis of the weight limitations of
52 paragraph (1) of this subsection, including the variance allowed by this paragraph.

53 (5) Any vehicle carrying a load as authorized in this subsection at night shall be equipped
54 with lights clearly visible for a distance of not less than 300 feet from the front and rear
55 of the vehicle."

56 **SECTION 2.**

57 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2011.

58 **SECTION 3.**

59 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.