

Senate Bill 146

By: Senator Williams of the 19th

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.

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

30 (2) A vehicle which is hauling the products listed in subparagraph (A) or (B) of
31 paragraph (1) of this subsection or which is hauling any other agricultural or farm product
32 from a farm to the first point of marketing or processing, or to a port, shall be permitted
33 a ~~5~~ 10 percent variance from the weight limitations in paragraph (1) of this subsection
34 within a 100 mile radius of the farm or point of origin or while in transit to a port. Any
35 person who violates the load limitations provided for in this paragraph by exceeding the
36 ~~5~~ 10 percent variance per single axle, tandem axle, or maximum total gross weight shall
37 be fined on the basis of the weight limitations of paragraph (1) of this subsection,
38 including the variance allowed by this paragraph.

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

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

49 **SECTION 2.**

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

51 **SECTION 3.**

52 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.