



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

BILL ANALYSIS



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

House Bill 5424 (Substitute S-1 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)
Sponsor: Representative Lisa Lyons
House Committee: Transportation

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to increase by 10% the loading maximum allowed for a vehicle transporting a farm product from the field or storage to first point of delivery on a road in Michigan, other than an interstate highway; and provide that a violation would be a civil infraction.

The Code prescribes axle loading maximums for different vehicles based on the vehicle combination and distance between axles, and prescribes a civil fine for the operation of a vehicle in violation of the loading maximums. Under the bill, the axle loading maximums would be increased by 10% for vehicles transporting a farm product as defined in the Right to Farm Act from the place of harvest or storage to first point of delivery on a road in Michigan. The increased axle loading maximums would not alter the Code's gross vehicle weight restrictions. The allowed increase would not apply to a vehicle using an interstate highway or a road subject to seasonal weight restrictions while those restrictions were in effect.

If a person operated a vehicle in violation of the increased axle loading maximums allowed under the bill, the vehicle's owner or lessee would be responsible for a civil infraction and would have to pay the civil fine that applied to the amount of weight by which the vehicle exceeded the original loading maximum.

MCL 257.722 & 257.724

Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

FISCAL IMPACT

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

Date Completed: 6-13-12

Fiscal Analyst: Dan O'Connor