

SENATE BILL NO. 178

INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS, WEEDING, TVEIT,
NOBLE, T. BECK, DEVLIN, WANZENRIED, GILBERT

IN THE SENATE

JANUARY 22, 1991 INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION.

 FIRST READING.

FEBRUARY 13, 1991 COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL
DO PASS AS AMENDED. REPORT ADOPTED.

FEBRUARY 14, 1991 PRINTING REPORT.

 SECOND READING, DO PASS.

FEBRUARY 15, 1991 ENGROSSING REPORT.

 THIRD READING, PASSED.
AYES, 45; NOES, 4.

 TRANSMITTED TO HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 15, 1991 FIRST READING.

 INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE
ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION.

FEBRUARY 16, 1991 FIRST READING.

MARCH 21, 1991 COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE
CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED. REPORT
ADOPTED.

APRIL 6, 1991 SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.

 ON MOTION, RULES SUSPENDED. BILL
PLACED ON THIRD READING THIS DAY.

 THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN.
AYES, 79; NOES, 18.

 RETURNED TO SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS.

IN THE SENATE

APRIL 17, 1991

RECEIVED FROM HOUSE.

SECOND READING, AMENDMENTS
CONCURRED IN.

APRIL 18, 1991

THIRD READING, AMENDMENTS
CONCURRED IN.

APRIL 19, 1991

SENT TO ENROLLING.

REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

1 *Senate* BILL NO. *178*
 2 INTRODUCED BY *William W. Leach, Trust*
 3 *Abbe T. Cant, Nurtin VANZENRUD, District*

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CONFORM THE VEHICLE
 5 LENGTH LIMIT LAWS TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WESTERN
 6 ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS;
 7 TO INCREASE THE ALLOWABLE LENGTH FOR CERTAIN VEHICLES AND
 8 VEHICLE COMBINATIONS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 61-10-104,
 9 61-10-124, AND 61-10-129, MCA."

10
 11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

12 **Section 1.** Section 61-10-104, MCA, is amended to read:

13 "**61-10-104. Length -- definitions.** (1) A single truck,
 14 bus, or any self-propelled vehicle, unladen or with load,
 15 may not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear
 16 bumpers, in excess of ~~40~~ 45 feet.

17 (2) (a) When used in a truck tractor-semitrailer
 18 combination, the semitrailer may not exceed 53 feet in
 19 length, excluding those portions not designed to carry a
 20 load, except as provided by 61-10-124. When used in a truck
 21 tractor-semitrailer-trailer or a truck
 22 tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combination, the semitrailer
 23 and trailer or the two semitrailers may not exceed 28 1/2
 24 feet each in length, excluding those portions not designed
 25 to carry a load, except as provided by 61-10-124. Truck

1 tractor-semitrailer, truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer, and
 2 truck tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combinations, other
 3 than a turnpike double, are not subject to ~~an overall~~ a
 4 combination length limit.

5 (b) A stinger-steered automobile or boat transporter
 6 may not exceed 75 feet in length plus a maximum 3 feet of
 7 front overhang and 4 feet of rear overhang except as
 8 provided by 61-10-124. "Stinger-steered automobile or boat
 9 transporter" means a truck tractor-semitrailer combination
 10 that has a fifth wheel on a drop frame located behind and
 11 below the rear axle of the truck tractor and that is
 12 designed and used for the transportation of vehicles or
 13 assembled boats or boat hulls.

14 (c) All other combinations of vehicles may not have an
 15 ~~overall~~ a combination length, ~~inclusive of front and rear~~
 16 ~~bumpers~~, in excess of 75 feet, except as provided by
 17 61-10-124. If the combination consists of more than two
 18 units, the rear units of the combination shall be equipped
 19 with breakaway brakes.

20 (3) A motor vehicle may not tow more than one motor
 21 vehicle, and a motor vehicle may not draw more than three
 22 motor vehicles attached to it by the triple saddle-mount
 23 method (that is, by mounting the front wheels of one vehicle
 24 on the bed of another, leaving only the rear wheels of the
 25 vehicle in contact with the roadway), nor may this

1 combination have ~~an overall~~ a combination length, ~~inclusive~~
2 ~~of front and rear bumpers~~, in excess of 65 feet.

3 (4) A passenger vehicle or truck of less than 2,000
4 pounds "manufacturers' rated capacity" may not tow more than
5 one trailer or semitrailer, nor may this combination have an
6 ~~overall a length~~ inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in
7 excess of 65 feet.

8 (5) As used in this chapter, the following definitions
9 apply:

10 (a) "Combination length" means the total length of a
11 combination of vehicles, such as a truck
12 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination, measured from the
13 front bumper of the motor vehicle to the back bumper or rear
14 extremity of the last trailer, including the connection
15 tongues.

16 (b) "Combined trailer length" means the total length of
17 a combination of trailers measured from the front of the
18 first trailer to the back of the last trailer, including the
19 connection tongues.

20 (c) "Length" means the total longitudinal dimension of
21 a single vehicle, a trailer, or a semitrailer. The length of
22 a trailer or semitrailer is measured from the front of the
23 cargo-carrying unit to its rear, exclusive of safety or
24 energy efficiency devices, air-conditioning units, air
25 compressors, flexible fender extensions, splash and spray

1 suppressant devices, bolsters, mechanical fastening devices,
2 and hydraulic lift gates.

3 (d) "Rocky mountain double" means a combination of
4 vehicles that includes a truck tractor pulling a long
5 semitrailer and a shorter trailer.

6 (e) "Turnpike double" means a combination of vehicles
7 that includes a truck tractor pulling a long semitrailer and
8 an additional long trailer."

9 **Section 2.** Section 61-10-124, MCA, is amended to read:

10 "61-10-124. Special permits -- fee -- cranes. (1) As
11 used in this section, "crane" means a self-propelled
12 single-unit vehicle consisting of not more than four axles
13 and used for raising, shifting, and lowering heavy weights
14 by means of a projecting swinging arm.
15 (2) Except as provided in subsections (3)(b), (3)(d),
16 and (6), in addition to the regular registration and gross
17 vehicle weight fees, a fee of \$10 for each trip permit and a
18 fee of \$75 for each term permit issued for size and weight
19 in excess of that specified in 61-10-101 through 61-10-110
20 must be paid for all movements under special permits on the
21 public highways under the jurisdiction of the department of
22 highways.

23 (3) (a) Except as provided in subsections (3)(b),
24 (3)(d), and (6), term or blanket permits may not be issued
25 for an overwidth vehicle, combination of vehicles, load, or

1 other thing in excess of 15 feet; an overlength vehicle,
 2 combination of vehicles, load, object, or other thing in
 3 excess of 95 feet; and an overheight vehicle, combination of
 4 vehicles, load, or other thing in excess of 14 feet, or of a
 5 limit determined by the department. A vehicle, combination
 6 of vehicles, load, or other thing in excess of these
 7 dimensions is limited to trip permits. A rocky mountain
 8 double may not exceed 81 feet in combined trailer length,
 9 the long semitrailer cargo unit of the combination may not
 10 exceed 48 feet in length, and the shorter cargo unit may not
 11 exceed 28 1/2 feet in length. A rocky mountain double is not
 12 subject to a combination length limit. Special permits for
 13 vehicle combinations of more than two trailers or more than
 14 two units designed for or used to carry a load are not
 15 permitted except as provided in subsection (6). Special
 16 permits for vehicle combinations may specify and special
 17 permits under subsection (6) must specify highway routing
 18 and otherwise limit or prescribe conditions of operation of
 19 the vehicle or combination, including but not limited to
 20 required equipment, speed, stability, operational
 21 procedures, and insurance.

22 (b) A term permit may be issued to a dealer in
 23 implements of husbandry and self-propelled machinery for an
 24 overwidth or overlength vehicle referred to in subsection
 25 (3)(a). The fee for this permit is \$75. This permit covers a

1 period of 1 year and expires on December 31 of each year
 2 with no grace period.

3 (c) With payment of the appropriate gross weight fee
 4 fees required by ~~61-10-203~~ 61-10-201 and 61-10-202 and with
 5 payment of the fee prescribed in subsection (2), allowable
 6 gross weight of a five-axle combination logging vehicle is
 7 80,000 pounds.

8 (d) A term permit may be issued for ~~any combination of~~
 9 ~~vehicles~~ a turnpike double that ~~exceeds 95 feet in length~~
 10 ~~but does not exceed 100 feet in combination length,~~
 11 ~~except a truck-trailer-trailer or a truck~~
 12 ~~tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer combination, for travel~~
 13 ~~only on highways that are part of the federal-aid interstate~~
 14 ~~system, as defined in 60-1-103, or on other highways within~~
 15 ~~a 2-mile radius of an interchange on the interstate system~~
 16 ~~in order to obtain necessary services or to load or unload~~
 17 ~~at a terminal. When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius,~~
 18 ~~the department may authorize travel between the terminal and~~
 19 ~~the interchange. The fee for this permit is \$125.~~ A turnpike
 20 double may not exceed 110 feet in combination length and an
 21 individual cargo unit of the combination may not exceed 45
 22 feet in length. The combination of vehicles composing a
 23 turnpike double must comply with the provisions of
 24 subsection (f) except the length limit in subsection (6)(d).

25 (4) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), a permit

1 may not be issued for a period of time greater than the
 2 period for which the GVW license is valid as provided in
 3 this title, including grace periods allowed by this title.
 4 Owners of vehicles licensed in other jurisdictions may, at
 5 the discretion of the department of highways, purchase
 6 permits to expire with their registration. A license
 7 required by the state governs the issuance of a special
 8 permit.

9 (5) The owner or operator of a crane with a gross
 10 vehicle weight of less than 80,000 pounds may purchase a
 11 30-day special permit for overweight if the crane has a
 12 current special mobile equipment identification plate and if
 13 the department of highways has approved the configuration of
 14 the crane through a weight analysis completed within the
 15 same calendar year. The permit is not transferable, and the
 16 fee for the permit is \$200.

17 (6) The department may issue special permits to the
 18 operating company for a truck-trailer-trailer or truck
 19 tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer combination of vehicles
 20 under the following conditions:

21 (a) the combination may be operated only on highways
 22 that are part of the federal-aid interstate system as
 23 defined in 60-1-103 and within a 2-mile radius of an
 24 interchange on the interstate system on other highways only
 25 in order to obtain necessary services or to load or unload

1 at a terminal. When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius,
 2 the department may authorize travel between the terminal and
 3 the interchange.

4 (b) a combination of vehicles powered by a cab-over
 5 (tilt cab) type truck-tractor or a truck may not exceed
 6 overall length of 105 feet, inclusive of front and rear
 7 bumpers and overhang;

8 (c) a combination of vehicles powered by a conventional
 9 truck-tractor may not exceed overall length of 110 feet,
 10 inclusive of front and rear bumpers and overhang;

11 (d) no individual cargo unit of the combination may
 12 exceed 28 1/2 feet in length and 102 inches in width;

13 (e) gross weight fees under 61-10-203 must be paid on
 14 the truck or truck tractor for the declared registered gross
 15 weight of the special vehicle combination, but not to exceed
 16 the formula in 61-10-107;

17 (f) the combination must have a restricted route permit
 18 under 61-10-107(3) and a special overlength permit issued at
 19 a fee of \$200 for a term permit or \$20 for each trip permit;

20 (g) travel of the combination may be restricted to
 21 specific routes, hours of operation, specific days, or
 22 seasonal periods; and

23 (h) the department may enforce any other restrictions
 24 determined by the department to be necessary. The permit is
 25 not transferable, and the fee for the permit is \$200."

1 **Section 3.** Section 61-10-129, MCA, is amended to read:
2 "**61-10-129. Rules regarding overlength vehicles.** The
3 department of highways may adopt rules to implement
4 61-10-124{4} and may by rule prescribe standards for the
5 qualifications of drivers operating special vehicle
6 combinations under 61-10-124{4} and for the equipping and
7 operation of such combinations to enhance highway traffic
8 safety."

-End-

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

SENATE BILL NO. 178

INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS, WEEDING, TVEIT,
NOBLE, T. BECK, DEVLIN, WANZENRIED, GILBERT

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CONFORM THE VEHICLE
LENGTH LIMIT LAWS TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WESTERN
ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS;
TO INCREASE THE ALLOWABLE LENGTH FOR CERTAIN VEHICLES AND
VEHICLE COMBINATIONS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 61-10-104,
61-10-124, AND 61-10-129, MCA."

STATEMENT OF INTENT

A STATEMENT OF INTENT IS REQUIRED FOR THIS BILL BECAUSE
61-10-129 GRANTS RULEMAKING AUTHORITY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
HIGHWAYS. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE
RULES ADOPTED FOR TURNPIKE DOUBLES INCLUDE ALL THE RULES
ADOPTED FOR THE OPERATION OF TRIPLE TRAILERS. IN ADDITION,
IT IS INTENDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT AUDIT ALL INTERCHANGES
AND RESTRICT ACCESS ROUTES ON AND OFF THE INTERSTATE SYSTEM
BY TURNPIKE DOUBLES AS A RESULT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S
ASSESSMENT OF INTERCHANGES AND ROUTES TO THE INTERCHANGES TO
BE FOLLOWED. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REQUIRE, WHEN NECESSARY,
TRANSPORTATION OF THE TRAILERS IN A TURNPIKE DOUBLE
CONFIGURATION SEPARATELY TO A POINT NEAR THE INTERCHANGE OF
THE INTERSTATE FOR COUPLING PRIOR TO INGRESS AND EGRESS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 61-10-104, MCA, is amended to read:

"61-10-104. Length -- definitions. (1) A single truck,
bus, or any self-propelled vehicle, unladen or with load,
may not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear
bumpers, in excess of 40 45 feet.

(2) (a) When used in a truck tractor-semitrailer
combination, the semitrailer may not exceed 53 feet in
length, excluding those portions not designed to carry a
load, except as provided by 61-10-124. When used in a truck
tractor-semitrailer-trailer or a truck
tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combination, the semitrailer
and trailer or the two semitrailers may not exceed 28 1/2
feet each in length, excluding those portions not designed
to carry a load, except as provided by 61-10-124. Truck
tractor-semitrailer, truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer, and
truck tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combinations, other
than a turnpike double, are not subject to an--overall a
combination length limit.

(b) A stinger-steered automobile or boat transporter
may not exceed 75 feet in length plus a maximum 3 feet of
front overhang and 4 feet of rear overhang except as
provided by 61-10-124. "Stinger-steered automobile or boat
transporter" means a truck tractor-semitrailer combination

SECOND READING

1 that has a fifth wheel on a drop frame located behind and
2 below the rear axle of the truck tractor and that is
3 designed and used for the transportation of vehicles or
4 assembled boats or boat hulls.

5 (c) All other combinations of vehicles may not have an
6 overall a combination length, inclusive of front and rear
7 bumpers, in excess of 75 feet, except as provided by
8 61-10-124. If the combination consists of more than two
9 units, the rear units of the combination shall be equipped
10 with breakaway brakes.

11 (3) A motor vehicle may not tow more than one motor
12 vehicle, and a motor vehicle may not draw more than three
13 motor vehicles attached to it by the triple saddle-mount
14 method (that is, by mounting the front wheels of one vehicle
15 on the bed of another, leaving only the rear wheels of the
16 vehicle in contact with the roadway), nor may this
17 combination have an overall a combination length, inclusive
18 of front and rear bumpers, in excess of 65 feet.

19 (4) A passenger vehicle or truck of less than 2,000
20 pounds "manufacturers' rated capacity" may not tow more than
21 one trailer or semitrailer, nor may this combination have an
22 overall a length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, in
23 excess of 65 feet.

24 (5) As used in this chapter, the following definitions
25 apply:

1 (a) "Combination length" means the total length of a
2 combination of vehicles, such as a truck
3 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination, measured from the
4 front bumper of the motor vehicle to the back bumper or rear
5 extremity of the last trailer, including the connection
6 tongues.

7 (b) "Combined trailer length" means the total length of
8 a combination of trailers measured from the front of the
9 first trailer to the back of the last trailer, including the
10 connection tongues AND LOADS.

11 (c) "Length" means the total longitudinal dimension of
12 a single vehicle, a trailer, or a semitrailer. The length of
13 a trailer or semitrailer is measured from the front of the
14 cargo-carrying unit to its rear, exclusive of safety or
15 energy efficiency devices, air-conditioning units, air
16 compressors, flexible fender extensions, splash and spray
17 suppressant devices, bolsters, mechanical fastening devices,
18 and hydraulic lift gates.

19 (d) "Rocky mountain double" means a combination of
20 vehicles that includes a truck tractor pulling a long
21 semitrailer and a shorter trailer.

22 (e) "Turnpike double" means a combination of vehicles
23 that includes a truck tractor pulling a long semitrailer and
24 an additional long trailer."

25 **Section 2.** Section 61-10-124, MCA, is amended to read:

1 "61-10-124. Special permits -- fee -- cranes. (1) As
 2 used in this section, "crane" means a self-propelled
 3 single-unit vehicle consisting of not more than four axles
 4 and used for raising, shifting, and lowering heavy weights
 5 by means of a projecting swinging arm.

6 (2). Except as provided in subsections (3)(b), (3)(d),
 7 and (6), in addition to the regular registration and gross
 8 vehicle weight fees, a fee of \$10 for each trip permit and a
 9 fee of \$75 for each term permit issued for size and weight
 10 in excess of that specified in 61-10-101 through 61-10-110
 11 must be paid for all movements under special permits on the
 12 public highways under the jurisdiction of the department of
 13 highways.

14 (3) (a) Except as provided in subsections (3)(b),
 15 (3)(d), and (6), term or blanket permits may not be issued
 16 for an overwidth vehicle, combination of vehicles, load, or
 17 other thing in excess of 15 feet; an overlength vehicle,
 18 combination of vehicles, load, object, or other thing in
 19 excess of 95 feet; and an overheight vehicle, combination of
 20 vehicles, load, or other thing in excess of 14 feet, or of a
 21 limit determined by the department. A vehicle, combination
 22 of vehicles, load, or other thing in excess of these
 23 dimensions is limited to trip permits. A rocky mountain
 24 double may not exceed 81 feet in combined trailer length,
 25 the long semitrailer cargo unit of the combination may not

1 exceed 48 feet in length, and the shorter cargo unit may not
 2 exceed 28-1/2 feet in length. A rocky mountain double is not
 3 subject to a combination length limit. Special permits for
 4 vehicle combinations of more than two trailers or more than
 5 two units designed for or used to carry a load are not
 6 permitted except as provided in subsection (6). Special
 7 permits for vehicle combinations may specify and special
 8 permits under subsection (6) must specify highway routing
 9 and otherwise limit or prescribe conditions of operation of
 10 the vehicle or combination, including but not limited to
 11 required equipment, speed, stability, operational
 12 procedures, and insurance.

13 (b) A term permit may be issued to a dealer in
 14 implements of husbandry and self-propelled machinery for an
 15 overwidth or overlength vehicle referred to in subsection
 16 (3)(a). The fee for this permit is \$75. This permit covers a
 17 period of 1 year and expires on December 31 of each year
 18 with no grace period.

19 (c) With payment of the appropriate gross weight fee
 20 fees required by ~~61-10-203~~ 61-10-201 and 61-10-202 and with
 21 payment of the fee prescribed in subsection (2), allowable
 22 gross weight of a five-axle combination logging vehicle is
 23 80,000 pounds.

24 (d) A term permit may be issued for ~~any combination of~~
 25 vehicles a turnpike double that exceeds 95 feet in length

1 but does not exceed ~~±00~~ 110 feet in combination length,
 2 ~~except-----a-----truck-trailer-trailer-----or-----a-----truck~~
 3 ~~tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer-combination, for travel~~
 4 ~~only on highways that are part of the federal-aid interstate~~
 5 ~~system, as defined in 60-1-103, or on other highways within~~
 6 ~~a 2-mile radius of an interchange on the interstate system~~
 7 ~~in order to obtain necessary services or to load or unload~~
 8 ~~at a terminal. When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius,~~
 9 ~~the department may authorize travel between the terminal and~~
 10 ~~the interchange. The fee for this permit is \$125. A turnpike~~
 11 double may not exceed 110 feet in combination length and an
 12 individual cargo unit of the combination may not exceed 45
 13 feet in length. The combination of vehicles composing a
 14 turnpike double must comply with the provisions of
 15 subsection (6) except the length limit in subsection (6)(d).

16 (4) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), a permit
 17 may not be issued for a period of time greater than the
 18 period for which the GVW license is valid as provided in
 19 this title, including grace periods allowed by this title.
 20 Owners of vehicles licensed in other jurisdictions may, at
 21 the discretion of the department of highways, purchase
 22 permits to expire with their registration. A license
 23 required by the state governs the issuance of a special
 24 permit.

25 (5) The owner or operator of a crane with a gross

1 vehicle weight of less than 80,000 pounds may purchase a
 2 30-day special permit for overweight if the crane has a
 3 current special mobile equipment identification plate and if
 4 the department of highways has approved the configuration of
 5 the crane through a weight analysis completed ~~within~~ the
 6 same calendar year. The permit is not transferable, and the
 7 fee for the permit is \$200.

8 (6) The department may issue special permits to the
 9 operating company for a truck-trailer-trailer or truck
 10 tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer combination of vehicles
 11 under the following conditions:

12 (a) the combination may be operated only on highways
 13 that are part of the federal-aid interstate system as
 14 defined in 60-1-103 and within a 2-mile radius of an
 15 interchange on the interstate system on other highways only
 16 in order to obtain necessary services or to load or unload
 17 at a terminal. ~~When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius,~~
 18 ~~the department may authorize travel between the terminal and~~
 19 ~~the interchange.~~

20 (b) a combination of vehicles powered by a cab-over
 21 (tilt cab) type truck-tractor or a truck may not exceed
 22 overall length of 105 feet, inclusive of front and rear
 23 bumpers and overhang;

24 (c) a combination of vehicles powered by a conventional
 25 truck-tractor may not exceed overall length of 110 feet,

1 inclusive of front and rear bumpers and overhang;

2 (d) no individual cargo unit of the combination may
3 exceed 28 1/2 feet in length and 102 inches in width;

4 (e) gross weight fees under 61-10-203 must be paid on
5 the truck or truck tractor for the declared registered gross
6 weight of the special vehicle combination, but not to exceed
7 the formula in 61-10-107;

8 (f) the combination must have a restricted route permit
9 under 61-10-107(3) and a special overlength permit issued at
10 a fee of \$200 for a term permit or \$20 for each trip permit;

11 (g) travel of the combination may be restricted to
12 specific routes, hours of operation, specific days, or
13 seasonal periods; and

14 (h) the department may enforce any other restrictions
15 determined by the department to be necessary. The permit is
16 not transferable, and the fee for the permit is \$200."

17 **Section 3.** Section 61-10-129, MCA, is amended to read:

18 "61-10-129. Rules regarding overlength vehicles. The
19 department of highways may adopt rules to implement
20 61-10-124~~+~~ and may by rule prescribe standards for the
21 qualifications of drivers operating special vehicle
22 combinations under 61-10-124~~+~~ and for the equipping and
23 operation of such combinations to enhance highway traffic
24 safety."

-End-

1 SENATE BILL NO. 178

2 INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS, WEEDING, TVEIT,
3 NOBLE, T. BECK, DEVLIN, WANZENRIED, GILBERT

4
5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CONFORM THE VEHICLE
6 LENGTH LIMIT LAWS TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WESTERN
7 ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS;
8 TO INCREASE THE ALLOWABLE LENGTH FOR CERTAIN VEHICLES AND
9 VEHICLE COMBINATIONS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 61-10-104,
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11 STATEMENT OF INTENT

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13 A STATEMENT OF INTENT IS REQUIRED FOR THIS BILL BECAUSE
14 61-10-129 GRANTS RULEMAKING AUTHORITY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
15 HIGHWAYS. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE
16 RULES ADOPTED FOR TURNPIKE DOUBLES INCLUDE ALL THE RULES
17 ADOPTED FOR THE OPERATION OF TRIPLE TRAILERS. IN ADDITION,
18 IT IS INTENDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT AUDIT ALL INTERCHANGES
19 AND RESTRICT ACCESS ROUTES ON AND OFF THE INTERSTATE SYSTEM
20 BY TURNPIKE DOUBLES AS A RESULT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S
21 ASSESSMENT OF INTERCHANGES AND ROUTES TO THE INTERCHANGES TO
22 BE FOLLOWED. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REQUIRE, WHEN NECESSARY,
23 TRANSPORTATION OF THE TRAILERS IN A TURNPIKE DOUBLE
24 CONFIGURATION SEPARATELY TO A POINT NEAR THE INTERCHANGE OF
25 THE INTERSTATE FOR COUPLING PRIOR TO INGRESS AND EGRESS.

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2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

3 **Section 1.** Section 61-10-104, MCA, is amended to read:

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7 bumpers, in excess of 40 45 feet.

8 (2) (a) When used in a truck tractor-semitrailer
9 combination, the semitrailer may not exceed 53 feet in
10 length, excluding those portions not designed to carry a
11 load, except as provided by 61-10-124. When used in a truck
12 tractor-semitrailer-trailer or a truck
13 tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combination, the semitrailer
14 and trailer or the two semitrailers may not exceed 28 1/2
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16 to carry a load, except as provided by 61-10-124. Truck
17 tractor-semitrailer, truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer, and
18 truck tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combinations, other
19 than a turnpike double, are not subject to an--overall a
20 combination length limit.

21 (b) A stinger-steered automobile or boat transporter
22 may not exceed 75 feet in length plus a maximum 3 feet of
23 front overhang and 4 feet of rear overhang except as
24 provided by 61-10-124. "Stinger-steered automobile or boat
25 transporter" means a truck tractor-semitrailer combination

THIRD READING

1 that has a fifth wheel on a drop frame located behind and
2 below the rear axle of the truck tractor and that is
3 designed and used for the transportation of vehicles or
4 assembled boats or boat hulls.

5 (c) All other combinations of vehicles may not have an
6 ~~overall a combination length, inclusive of front and rear~~
7 ~~bumpers~~, in excess of 75 feet, except as provided by
8 61-10-124. If the combination consists of more than two
9 units, the rear units of the combination shall be equipped
10 with breakaway brakes.

11 (3) A motor vehicle may not tow more than one motor
12 vehicle, and a motor vehicle may not draw more than three
13 motor vehicles attached to it by the triple saddle-mount
14 method (that is, by mounting the front wheels of one vehicle
15 on the bed of another, leaving only the rear wheels of the
16 vehicle in contact with the roadway), nor may this
17 combination have an ~~overall a combination length, inclusive~~
18 ~~of front and rear bumpers~~, in excess of 65 feet.

19 (4) A passenger vehicle or truck of less than 2,000
20 pounds "manufacturers' rated capacity" may not tow more than
21 one trailer or semitrailer, nor may this combination have an
22 ~~overall a length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers~~, in
23 excess of 65 feet.

24 (5) As used in this chapter, the following definitions
25 apply:

1 (a) "Combination length" means the total length of a
2 combination of vehicles, such as a truck
3 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination, measured from the
4 front bumper of the motor vehicle to the back bumper or rear
5 extremity of the last trailer, including the connection
6 tongues.

7 (b) "Combined trailer length" means the total length of
8 a combination of trailers measured from the front of the
9 first trailer to the back of the last trailer, including the
10 connection tongues AND LOADS.

11 (c) "Length" means the total longitudinal dimension of
12 a single vehicle, a trailer, or a semitrailer. The length of
13 a trailer or semitrailer is measured from the front of the
14 cargo-carrying unit to its rear, exclusive of safety or
15 energy efficiency devices, air-conditioning units, air
16 compressors, flexible fender extensions, splash and spray
17 suppressant devices, bolsters, mechanical fastening devices,
18 and hydraulic lift gates.

19 (d) "Rocky mountain double" means a combination of
20 vehicles that includes a truck tractor pulling a long
21 semitrailer and a shorter trailer.

22 (e) "Turnpike double" means a combination of vehicles
23 that includes a truck tractor pulling a long semitrailer and
24 an additional long trailer."

25 **Section 2.** Section 61-10-124, MCA, is amended to read:

1 "61-10-124. Special permits -- fee -- cranes. (1) As
 2 used in this section, "crane" means a self-propelled
 3 single-unit vehicle consisting of not more than four axles
 4 and used for raising, shifting, and lowering heavy weights
 5 by means of a projecting swinging arm.

6 (2) Except as provided in subsections (3)(b), (3)(d),
 7 and (6), in addition to the regular registration and gross
 8 vehicle weight fees, a fee of \$10 for each trip permit and a
 9 fee of \$75 for each term permit issued for size and weight
 10 in excess of that specified in 61-10-101 through 61-10-110
 11 must be paid for all movements under special permits on the
 12 public highways under the jurisdiction of the department of
 13 highways.

14 (3) (a) Except as provided in subsections (3)(b),
 15 (3)(d), and (6), term or blanket permits may not be issued
 16 for an overwidth vehicle, combination of vehicles, load, or
 17 other thing in excess of 15 feet; an overlength vehicle,
 18 combination of vehicles, load, object, or other thing in
 19 excess of 95 feet; and an overheight vehicle, combination of
 20 vehicles, load, or other thing in excess of 14 feet, or of a
 21 limit determined by the department. A vehicle, combination
 22 of vehicles, load, or other thing in excess of these
 23 dimensions is limited to trip permits. A rocky mountain
 24 double may not exceed 81 feet in combined trailer length,
 25 the long semitrailer cargo unit of the combination may not

1 exceed 48 feet in length, and the shorter cargo unit may not
 2 exceed 28 1/2 feet in length. A rocky mountain double is not
 3 subject to a combination length limit. Special permits for
 4 vehicle combinations of more than two trailers or more than
 5 two units designed for or used to carry a load are not
 6 permitted except as provided in subsection (6). Special
 7 permits for vehicle combinations may specify and special
 8 permits under subsection (6) must specify highway routing
 9 and otherwise limit or prescribe conditions of operation of
 10 the vehicle or combination, including but not limited to
 11 required equipment, speed, stability, operational
 12 procedures, and insurance.

13 (b) A term permit may be issued to a dealer in
 14 implements of husbandry and self-propelled machinery for an
 15 overwidth or overlength vehicle referred to in subsection
 16 (3)(a). The fee for this permit is \$75. This permit covers a
 17 period of 1 year and expires on December 31 of each year
 18 with no grace period.

19 (c) With payment of the appropriate gross weight fee
 20 fees required by ~~61-10-203~~ 61-10-201 and 61-10-202 and with
 21 payment of the fee prescribed in subsection (2), allowable
 22 gross weight of a five-axle combination logging vehicle is
 23 80,000 pounds.

24 (d) A term permit may be issued for any combination--of
 25 vehicles a turnpike double that exceeds 95 feet in length

1 but does not exceed ±00 110 feet in combination length,
 2 ~~except-----a-----truck-trailer-trailer-----or-----a-----truck~~
 3 ~~tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer-combination, for travel~~
 4 ~~only on highways that are part of the federal-aid interstate~~
 5 ~~system, as defined in 60-1-103, or on other highways within~~
 6 ~~a 2-mile radius of an interchange on the interstate system~~
 7 ~~in order to obtain necessary services or to load or unload~~
 8 ~~at a terminal. When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius,~~
 9 ~~the department may authorize travel between the terminal and~~
 10 ~~the interchange. The fee for this permit is \$125. A turnpike~~
 11 double may not exceed 110 feet in combination length and an
 12 individual cargo unit of the combination may not exceed 45
 13 feet in length. The combination of vehicles composing a
 14 turnpike double must comply with the provisions of
 15 subsection (6) except the length limit in subsection (6)(d).

16 (4) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), a permit
 17 may not be issued for a period of time greater than the
 18 period for which the GVW license is valid as provided in
 19 this title, including grace periods allowed by this title.
 20 Owners of vehicles licensed in other jurisdictions may, at
 21 the discretion of the department of highways, purchase
 22 permits to expire with their registration. A license
 23 required by the state governs the issuance of a special
 24 permit.

25 (5) The owner or operator of a crane with a gross

1 vehicle weight of less than 80,000 pounds may purchase a
 2 30-day special permit for overweight if the crane has a
 3 current special mobile equipment identification plate and if
 4 the department of highways has approved the configuration of
 5 the crane through a weight analysis completed within the
 6 same calendar year. The permit is not transferable, and the
 7 fee for the permit is \$200.

8 (6) The department may issue special permits to the
 9 operating company for a truck-trailer-trailer or truck
 10 tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer combination of vehicles
 11 under the following conditions:

12 (a) the combination may be operated only on highways
 13 that are part of the federal-aid interstate system as
 14 defined in 60-1-103 and within a 2-mile radius of an
 15 interchange on the interstate system on other highways only
 16 in order to obtain necessary services or to load or unload
 17 at a terminal. ~~When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius,~~
 18 ~~the department may authorize travel between the terminal and~~
 19 ~~the interchange.~~

20 (b) a combination of vehicles powered by a cab-over
 21 (tilt cab) type truck-tractor or a truck may not exceed
 22 overall length of 105 feet, inclusive of front and rear
 23 bumpers and overhang;

24 (c) a combination of vehicles powered by a conventional
 25 truck-tractor may not exceed overall length of 110 feet,

1 inclusive of front and rear bumpers and overhang;

2 (d) no individual cargo unit of the combination may
3 exceed 28 1/2 feet in length and 102 inches in width;

4 (e) gross weight fees under 61-10-203 must be paid on
5 the truck or truck tractor for the declared registered gross
6 weight of the special vehicle combination, but not to exceed
7 the formula in 61-10-107;

8 (f) the combination must have a restricted route permit
9 under 61-10-107(3) and a special overlength permit issued at
10 a fee of \$200 for a term permit or \$20 for each trip permit;

11 (g) travel of the combination may be restricted to
12 specific routes, hours of operation, specific days, or
13 seasonal periods; and

14 (h) the department may enforce any other restrictions
15 determined by the department to be necessary. The permit is
16 not transferable, and the fee for the permit is \$200."

17 **Section 3.** Section 61-10-129, MCA, is amended to read:

18 "61-10-129. Rules regarding overlength vehicles. The
19 department of highways may adopt rules to implement
20 61-10-124(4) and may by rule prescribe standards for the
21 qualifications of drivers operating special vehicle
22 combinations under 61-10-124(4) and for the equipping and
23 operation of such combinations to enhance highway traffic
24 safety."

-End-

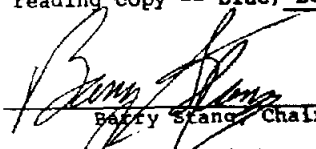
HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

March 21, 1991
Page 2 of 2

March 21, 1991

Page 1 of 2

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Highways and Transportation report that Senate Bill 178 (third reading copy -- blue) be concurred in as amended.

Signed: 
Barry Stang, Chairman

Carried by: Rep. Wanzenried

And, that such amendments read:

1. Title, line 5.

Following: "CONFORM"

Strike: "THE"

Insert: "CERTAIN"

2. Title, line 9.

Following: "COMBINATIONS;"

Insert: "TO REQUIRE A STUDY OF TURNPIKE DOUBLES;"

3. Page 1, lines 12 through 25.

Following: line 11

Strike: Statement of Intent in its entirety

4. Page 2, lines 18 and 19.

Following: "combinations" on line 18

Strike: remainder of line 18 through "double," on line 19

5. Page 4, lines 22 through 24.

Strike: subsection (e) in its entirety

6. Page 6, line 25.

Following: "vehicles"

Strike: "a turnpike double"

Insert: "any combination of vehicles"

7. Page 7, line 1.

Following: "but"

Insert: "exceeds 95 feet in length but"

Strike: "110"

Insert: "100"

8. Page 7, lines 10 through 15.

Following: "\$125" on line 10

Strike: remainder of line 10 through "(6) (d)." on line 15

Insert: ", except a truck-trailer-trailer or a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer combination, for travel only on highways that are part of the federal-aid interstate system, as defined in 60-1-103, or on other highways within a 2-mile radius of an interchange on the interstate system in order to obtain necessary services or to load or unload at a terminal. When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius, the department may authorize travel between the terminal and the interchange. The fee for this permit is \$125."

9. Page 8, line 19.

Following: "interchange."

Insert: "When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius, the department may authorize travel between the terminal and the interchange."

10. Page 9, line 25.

Following: line 24

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 4. Turnpike doubles -- study.

(1) The department of highways shall conduct a study over the next 2 years of:

(a) all interchanges in Montana and the ability of the interchanges to accommodate twin 45s as turnpike doubles;

(b) the impact on highways of permitting twin 45s as turnpike doubles;

(c) terminal positions to interchanges; and

(d) the concept of permitting twin 45s as turnpike doubles.

(2) The department of highways shall report its finding of the study to the 53rd legislature."

SB 178
HOUSE

1 SENATE BILL NO. 178

2 INTRODUCED BY WILLIAMS, WEEDING, TVEIT,

3 NOBLE, T. BECK, DEVLIN, WANZENRIED, GILBERT

4
5 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO CONFORM THE CERTAIN
6 VEHICLE LENGTH LIMIT LAWS TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
7 WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION
8 OFFICIALS; TO INCREASE THE ALLOWABLE LENGTH FOR CERTAIN
9 VEHICLES AND VEHICLE COMBINATIONS; TO REQUIRE A STUDY OF
10 TURNPIKE DOUBLES; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 61-10-104,
11 61-10-124, AND 61-10-129, MCA."

12
13 STATEMENT OF INTENT

14 A STATEMENT OF INTENT IS REQUIRED FOR THIS BILL BECAUSE
15 61-10-129 GRANTS RULEMAKING AUTHORITY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
16 HIGHWAYS. IT IS THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE
17 RULES ADOPTED FOR TURNPIKE DOUBLES INCLUDE ALL THE RULES
18 ADOPTED FOR THE OPERATION OF TRIPLE TRAILERS. IN ADDITION,
19 IT IS INTENDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT AUDIT ALL INTERCHANGES
20 AND RESTRICT ACCESS ROUTES ON AND OFF THE INTERSTATE SYSTEM
21 BY TURNPIKE DOUBLES AS A RESULT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S
22 ASSESSMENT OF INTERCHANGES AND ROUTES TO THE INTERCHANGES TO
23 BE FOLLOWED. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REQUIRE, WHEN NECESSARY,
24 TRANSPORTATION OF THE TRAILERS IN A TURNPIKE DOUBLE
25 CONFIGURATION SEPARATELY TO A POINT NEAR THE INTERCHANGE OF

1 THE INTERSTATE FOR COUPLING PRIOR TO INGRESS AND EGRESS.2
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:4 **Section 1.** Section 61-10-104, MCA, is amended to read:5 **"61-10-104. Length -- definitions.** (1) A single truck,
6 bus, or any self-propelled vehicle, unladen or with load,
7 may not have an overall length, inclusive of front and rear
8 bumpers, in excess of 40 45 feet.9 (2) (a) When used in a truck tractor-semitrailer
10 combination, the semitrailer may not exceed 53 feet in
11 length, excluding those portions not designed to carry a
12 load, except as provided by 61-10-124. When used in a truck
13 tractor-semitrailer-trailer or a truck
14 tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combination, the semitrailer
15 and trailer or the two semitrailers may not exceed 28 1/2
16 feet each in length, excluding those portions not designed
17 to carry a load, except as provided by 61-10-124. Truck
18 tractor-semitrailer, truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer, and
19 truck tractor-semitrailer-semitrailer combinations, other
20 than a turnpike double, are not subject to an overall a
21 combination length limit.22 (b) A stinger-steered automobile or boat transporter
23 may not exceed 75 feet in length plus a maximum 3 feet of
24 front overhang and 4 feet of rear overhang except as
25 provided by 61-10-124. "Stinger-steered automobile or boat

1 transporter" means a truck tractor-semitrailer combination
2 that has a fifth wheel on a drop frame located behind and
3 below the rear axle of the truck tractor and that is
4 designed and used for the transportation of vehicles or
5 assembled boats or boat hulls.

6 (c) All other combinations of vehicles may not have an
7 ~~overall a combination length, inclusive of front and rear~~
8 ~~bumpers,~~ in excess of 75 feet, except as provided by
9 61-10-124. If the combination consists of more than two
10 units, the rear units of the combination shall be equipped
11 with breakaway brakes.

12 (3) A motor vehicle may not tow more than one motor
13 vehicle, and a motor vehicle may not draw more than three
14 motor vehicles attached to it by the triple saddle-mount
15 method (that is, by mounting the front wheels of one vehicle
16 on the bed of another, leaving only the rear wheels of the
17 vehicle in contact with the roadway), nor may this
18 combination have ~~an overall a combination length, inclusive~~
19 ~~of front and rear bumpers,~~ in excess of 65 feet.

20 (4) A passenger vehicle or truck of less than 2,000
21 pounds "manufacturers' rated capacity" may not tow more than
22 one trailer or semitrailer, nor may this combination have an
23 ~~overall a length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers,~~ in
24 excess of 65 feet.

25 (5) As used in this chapter, the following definitions

1 apply:

2 (a) "Combination length" means the total length of a
3 combination of vehicles, such as a truck
4 tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination, measured from the
5 front bumper of the motor vehicle to the back bumper or rear
6 extremity of the last trailer, including the connection
7 tongues.

8 (b) "Combined trailer length" means the total length of
9 a combination of trailers measured from the front of the
10 first trailer to the back of the last trailer, including the
11 connection tongues AND LOADS.

12 (c) "Length" means the total longitudinal dimension of
13 a single vehicle, a trailer, or a semitrailer. The length of
14 a trailer or semitrailer is measured from the front of the
15 cargo-carrying unit to its rear, exclusive of safety or
16 energy efficiency devices, air-conditioning units, air
17 compressors, flexible fender extensions, splash and spray
18 suppressant devices, bolsters, mechanical fastening devices,
19 and hydraulic lift gates.

20 (d) "Rocky mountain double" means a combination of
21 vehicles that includes a truck tractor pulling a long
22 semitrailer and a shorter trailer.

23 ~~(e) "Turnpike double" means a combination of vehicles~~
24 ~~that includes a truck tractor pulling a long semitrailer and~~
25 ~~an additional long trailer."~~

1 **Section 2.** Section 61-10-124, MCA, is amended to read:

2 "61-10-124. Special permits -- fee -- cranes. (1) As
3 used in this section, "crane" means a self-propelled
4 single-unit vehicle consisting of not more than four axles
5 and used for raising, shifting, and lowering heavy weights
6 by means of a projecting swinging arm.

7 (2) Except as provided in subsections (3)(b), (3)(d),
8 and (6), in addition to the regular registration and gross
9 vehicle weight fees, a fee of \$10 for each trip permit and a
10 fee of \$75 for each term permit issued for size and weight
11 in excess of that specified in 61-10-101 through 61-10-110
12 must be paid for all movements under special permits on the
13 public highways under the jurisdiction of the department of
14 highways.

15 (3) (a) Except as provided in subsections (3)(b),
16 (3)(d), and (6), term or blanket permits may not be issued
17 for an overwidth vehicle, combination of vehicles, load, or
18 other thing in excess of 15 feet; an overlength vehicle,
19 combination of vehicles, load, object, or other thing in
20 excess of 95 feet; and an overheight vehicle, combination of
21 vehicles, load, or other thing in excess of 14 feet, or of a
22 limit determined by the department. A vehicle, combination
23 of vehicles, load, or other thing in excess of these
24 dimensions is limited to trip permits. A rocky mountain
25 double may not exceed 81 feet in combined trailer length,

1 the long semitrailer cargo unit of the combination may not
2 exceed 48 feet in length, and the shorter cargo unit may not
3 exceed 28-1/2 feet in length. A rocky mountain double is not
4 subject to a combination length limit. Special permits for
5 vehicle combinations of more than two trailers or more than
6 two units designed for or used to carry a load are not
7 permitted except as provided in subsection (6). Special
8 permits for vehicle combinations may specify and special
9 permits under subsection (6) must specify highway routing
10 and otherwise limit or prescribe conditions of operation of
11 the vehicle or combination, including but not limited to
12 required equipment, speed, stability, operational
13 procedures, and insurance.

14 (b) A term permit may be issued to a dealer in
15 implements of husbandry and self-propelled machinery for an
16 overwidth or overlength vehicle referred to in subsection
17 (3)(a). The fee for this permit is \$75. This permit covers a
18 period of 1 year and expires on December 31 of each year
19 with no grace period.

20 (c) With payment of the appropriate gross weight fee
21 fees required by ~~61-10-203~~ 61-10-201 and 61-10-202 and with
22 payment of the fee prescribed in subsection (2), allowable
23 gross weight of a five-axle combination logging vehicle is
24 80,000 pounds.

25 (d) A term permit may be issued for ~~any combination~~ of

1 ~~vehicles a-turnstile-double~~ ANY COMBINATION OF VEHICLES that
 2 ~~exceeds-95-feet-in-length-but~~ EXCEEDS 95 FEET IN LENGTH BUT
 3 ~~does not exceed 100 110 100 feet in combination length;~~
 4 ~~except---a---truck-trailer-trailer---or---a---truck~~
 5 ~~tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer--combination,-for-travel~~
 6 ~~only-on-highways-that-are-part-of-the-federal-aid-interstate~~
 7 ~~system,-as-defined-in-60-1-103,-or-on-other-highways--within~~
 8 ~~a--2-mile--radius-of-an-interchange-on-the-interstate-system~~
 9 ~~in-order-to-obtain-necessary-services-or-to-load--or--unload~~
 10 ~~at--a--terminal;--When-a-terminal-is-beyond-a-2-mile-radius,~~
 11 ~~the-department-may-authorize-travel-between-the-terminal-and~~
 12 ~~the-interchange;--The-fee-for-this-permit-is-\$125; A-turnstile~~
 13 ~~double-may-not-exceed-110-feet-in-combination-length-and--an~~
 14 ~~individual-cargo-unit-of-the-combination-may-not-exceed-45~~
 15 ~~feet-in-length;--The--combination--of--vehicles--composing--a~~
 16 ~~turnstile--double---must---comply---with---the---provisions---of~~
 17 ~~subsection--(6)--except--the--length--limit--in--subsection~~
 18 ~~(6)(d);~~, EXCEPT A TRUCK-TRAILER-TRAILER OR A TRUCK
 19 TRACTOR-SEMITRAILER-TRAILER-TRAILER COMBINATION, FOR TRAVEL
 20 ONLY ON HIGHWAYS THAT ARE PART OF THE FEDERAL-AID INTERSTATE
 21 SYSTEM, AS DEFINED IN 60-1-103, OR ON OTHER HIGHWAYS WITHIN
 22 A 2-MILE RADIUS OF AN INTERCHANGE ON THE INTERSTATE SYSTEM
 23 IN ORDER TO OBTAIN NECESSARY SERVICES OR TO LOAD OR UNLOAD
 24 AT A TERMINAL. WHEN A TERMINAL IS BEYOND A 2-MILE RADIUS,
 25 THE DEPARTMENT MAY AUTHORIZE TRAVEL BETWEEN THE TERMINAL AND

1 THE INTERCHANGE. THE FEE FOR THIS PERMIT IS \$125.

2 (4) Except as provided in subsection (3)(b), a permit
 3 may not be issued for a period of time greater than the
 4 period for which the GVW license is valid as provided in
 5 this title, including grace periods allowed by this title.
 6 Owners of vehicles licensed in other jurisdictions may, at
 7 the discretion of the department of highways, purchase
 8 permits to expire with their registration. A license
 9 required by the state governs the issuance of a special
 10 permit.

11 (5) The owner or operator of a crane with a gross
 12 vehicle weight of less than 80,000 pounds may purchase a
 13 30-day special permit for overweight if the crane has a
 14 current special mobile equipment identification plate and if
 15 the department of highways has approved the configuration of
 16 the crane through a weight analysis completed within the
 17 same calendar year. The permit is not transferable, and the
 18 fee for the permit is \$200.

19 (6) The department may issue special permits to the
 20 operating company for a truck-trailer-trailer or truck
 21 tractor-semitrailer-trailer-trailer combination of vehicles
 22 under the following conditions:

23 (a) the combination may be operated only on highways
 24 that are part of the federal-aid interstate system as
 25 defined in 60-1-103 and within a 2-mile radius of an

1 interchange on the interstate system on other highways only
 2 in order to obtain necessary services or to load or unload
 3 at a terminal. ~~When a terminal is beyond a 2-mile radius,~~
 4 ~~the department may authorize travel between the terminal and~~
 5 ~~the interchange.~~ WHEN A TERMINAL IS BEYOND A 2-MILE RADIUS,
 6 THE DEPARTMENT MAY AUTHORIZE TRAVEL BETWEEN THE TERMINAL AND
 7 THE INTERCHANGE.

8 (b) a combination of vehicles powered by a cab-over
 9 (tilt cab) type truck-tractor or a truck may not exceed
 10 overall length of 105 feet, inclusive of front and rear
 11 bumpers and overhang;

12 (c) a combination of vehicles powered by a conventional
 13 truck-tractor may not exceed overall length of 110 feet,
 14 inclusive of front and rear bumpers and overhang;

15 (d) no individual cargo unit of the combination may
 16 exceed 28 1/2 feet in length and 102 inches in width;

17 (e) gross weight fees under 61-10-203 must be paid on
 18 the truck or truck tractor for the declared registered gross
 19 weight of the special vehicle combination, but not to exceed
 20 the formula in 61-10-107;

21 (f) the combination must have a restricted route permit
 22 under 61-10-107(3) and a special overlength permit issued at
 23 a fee of \$200 for a term permit or \$20 for each trip permit;

24 (g) travel of the combination may be restricted to
 25 specific routes, hours of operation, specific days, or

1 seasonal periods; and

2 (h) the department may enforce any other restrictions
 3 determined by the department to be necessary. The permit is
 4 not transferable, and the fee for the permit is \$200."

5 **Section 3.** Section 61-10-129, MCA, is amended to read:

6 "**61-10-129. Rules regarding overlength vehicles.** The
 7 department of highways may adopt rules to implement
 8 61-10-124~~4~~ and may by rule prescribe standards for the
 9 qualifications of drivers operating special vehicle
 10 combinations under 61-10-124~~4~~ and for the equipping and
 11 operation of such combinations to enhance highway traffic
 12 safety."

13 NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. TURNPIKE DOUBLES -- STUDY. (1)
 14 THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS SHALL CONDUCT A STUDY OVER THE
 15 NEXT 2 YEARS OF:

16 (A) ALL INTERCHANGES IN MONTANA AND THE ABILITY OF THE
 17 INTERCHANGES TO ACCOMMODATE TWIN 45S AS TURNPIKE DOUBLES;

18 (B) THE IMPACT ON HIGHWAYS OF PERMITTING TWIN 45S AS
 19 TURNPIKE DOUBLES;

20 (C) TERMINAL POSITIONS TO INTERCHANGES; AND

21 (D) THE CONCEPT OF PERMITTING TWIN 45S AS TURNPIKE
 22 DOUBLES.

23 (2) THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS SHALL REPORT ITS FINDING
 24 OF THE STUDY TO THE 53RD LEGISLATURE.

-End-