

Sixty-second  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1079**

Introduced by

Transportation Committee

(At the request of the Department of Transportation)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 39-12-05 ~~and subsection 1 of~~  
2 ~~section 39-12-05.3~~ of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to steering axle weight limits on  
3 the national system of interstate and defense highways.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 39-12-05 of the North Dakota Century  
6 Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7 1. With a single axle that carries a gross weight in excess of twenty thousand pounds  
8 [9071.85 kilograms] or a wheel load over ten thousand pounds [4535.92 kilograms]. A  
9 wheel may not carry a gross weight over five hundred fifty pounds [249.48 kilograms]  
10 for each inch [2.54 centimeters] of tire width except that such limits may not be applied  
11 to tires on the steering axle. Steering axle weights are limited to twenty thousand  
12 pounds [9071.85 kilograms] or the axle rating established by the manufacturer,  
13 whichever is lower. Axles spaced forty inches [101.60 centimeters] apart or less are  
14 considered as one axle and, on axles spaced over forty inches [101.60 centimeters]  
15 and under eight feet [2.44 meters] apart, the axle load may not exceed seventeen  
16 thousand pounds [7711.07 kilograms] per axle. The wheel load, in any instance, may  
17 not exceed one-half the allowable axle load. Spacing between axles is measured from  
18 axle center to axle center.

19 ~~**SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 39-12-05.3 of the North Dakota~~  
20 ~~Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:~~

21 ~~1. A person may not operate on a highway that is not part of the interstate system any~~  
22 ~~vehicle with a single axle that carries a gross weight in excess of twenty thousand~~  
23 ~~pounds [9071.85 kilograms] or a wheel load over ten thousand pounds [4535.92~~  
24 ~~kilograms]. A wheel may not carry a gross weight over five hundred fifty pounds~~

1           ~~[249.48 kilograms] for each inch [2.54 centimeters] of tire width. Axles spaced forty-~~  
2           ~~inches [101.60 centimeters] apart or less are considered as one axle. On axles spaced~~  
3           ~~over forty inches [101.60 centimeters] and under eight feet [2.44 meters] apart, the~~  
4           ~~axle load may not exceed nineteen thousand pounds [8618.26 kilograms] per axle,~~  
5           ~~with a maximum of thirty-four thousand pounds [15422.14 kilograms] gross weight on~~  
6           ~~a tandem axle and a maximum of forty-eight thousand pounds [21772.32 kilograms]~~  
7           ~~gross weight on any grouping of three or more axles. The wheel load, in any instance,~~  
8           ~~may not exceed one-half the allowable axle load. Spacing between axles is measured~~  
9           ~~from axle center to axle center.~~

10           ~~On defense highways, a wheel may not carry a gross weight over five hundred~~  
11           ~~fifty pounds [249.48 kilograms] for each inch [2.54 centimeters] of tire width except~~  
12           ~~that such limits may not be applied to tires on the steering axle. Steering axle weights~~  
13           ~~are limited to twenty thousand pounds [9071.85 kilograms] or the axle rating~~  
14           ~~established by the manufacturer, whichever is lower.~~