

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.