

Arkansas Vehicle Code

27-35-111. Trailers and towed vehicles.

(a) (1) When one (1) vehicle is towing another, the drawbar or other connection shall be of sufficient strength to pull all weight towed. The drawbar or other connection shall not exceed fifteen feet (15') from one (1) vehicle to the other, except the connection between any two (2) vehicles transporting poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of structural nature which cannot readily be diminished.

(2) When one (1) vehicle is towing another, there shall be an additional connection between the vehicles sufficient to hold the vehicle being towed in the event the drawbar or other regular connection should break or become disconnected.

(3) When one (1) vehicle is towing another and the connection consists of a chain, rope, or cable, there shall be displayed upon the connection a white flag or cloth not less than twelve inches (12") square.

(4) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the drawbar or other connection between a motor vehicle and a pole or pipe dolly.

(b) (1) No person shall operate a vehicle towing another when the towed vehicle swerves from side to side dangerously or unreasonably or fails to follow substantially in the path of the towing vehicle.

(2) No person shall occupy any house trailer while it is being moved upon the highway.

27-35-206. Width of vehicles.

(a) No vehicle operated upon the highways of this state shall have a total outside width, unladen or with load, in excess of one hundred two inches (102"), excluding certain safety devices as designated by the state, unless a greater width is authorized by special permit issued by competent authority as provided in § 27-35-210. Provided, vehicles as defined in § 27-14-207 utilized to transport compacted seed cotton from the farm to the first point at which such seed cotton shall first undergo any processing, preparation for processing, or transformation from its compacted state may operate upon all highways of this state, with the exception of federal interstate highways, with widths not exceeding one hundred eight inches (108") without the special permit. However, the vehicles must be equipped and operated in compliance with the traffic laws of this state as well as all safety rules and regulations of the Department of Transportation and the State Highway Commission. Additionally, the vehicles utilized to transport compacted seed cotton with widths exceeding one hundred two inches (102"), but not exceeding one hundred eight inches (108"), must be equipped and operated with both front and rear bumpers if operated individually, or, if operated in combination with other vehicles, must be equipped with a front bumper on the vehicle furnishing the motive power and with a rear bumper

on the rear vehicle operated in that combination. Furthermore, the vehicles, when operated individually, or in combination with other vehicles, on the roads, highways, or streets of this state must be equipped with a sign or placard on the front and on the rear of the vehicle when operated individually, or on the front of the vehicle furnishing the motive power and on the rear of any vehicle operated in combination with the vehicle furnishing the motive power, when operated in combination, indicating that vehicle or combination of vehicles is slow-moving. Such signs or placards shall be of such a size, dimension, and color that it is readily apparent to the traveling public that the vehicle or combination is slow-moving and shall be in accordance with rules and regulations to be made and promulgated by the commission.

(b) Any person owning such a vehicle or combination of vehicles found operating such a vehicle or combination on the highways, roads, or streets of this state without the required bumpers or without the required signs or placards shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined in a sum of not less than three hundred dollars (\$ 300) and not more than three thousand dollars (\$ 3,000).

7-35-207. Height of vehicles.

No vehicle operated upon the highways of this state, unladen or with load, shall exceed a height of thirteen feet, six inches (13' 6"), unless a greater height is authorized by a special permit issued by competent authority as provided in § 27-35-210.

27-35-208. Length of vehicles.

(a) (1) No single truck operated on the highways of this state, unladen or with load, shall have an overall length in excess of forty feet (40').

(2) Provided, any single truck, unladen or with load, utilized to transport compacted seed cotton from the farm to the first point at which the seed cotton shall first undergo any processing, preparation for processing, or transformation from its compacted state may be operated on the highways of this state with the exception of federal interstate highways with an overall length in excess of forty feet (40') but no more than fifty-five feet (55').

(b) No bus operated on the highways of this state shall have an overall length in excess of forty-five feet (45').

(c) (1) (A) No semitrailer or trailer operated on the highways of this state in a truck tractor-semitrailer combination or a truck tractor-trailer combination shall have an overall length, unladen or with load, greater than those lengths that were in actual and lawful use in this state on December 1, 1982.

(B) The state shall not establish or enforce any regulation which imposes a semitrailer or trailer length limitation of less than fifty-three feet six inches (53' 6") on a semitrailer or trailer unit operating in combination with a truck tractor unit.

(2) (A) No semitrailer or trailer operated on the highways of this state in a truck tractor-semitrailer-trailer combination shall have an overall length, unladen or with load, in excess of twenty-eight feet (28').

(B) Existing semitrailers or trailers of twenty-eight feet six inches (28' 6") that were in actual and lawful use on December 1, 1982, shall not be prohibited.

(3) The length limitations described in this subsection shall be exclusive of coupling devices, energy conservation devices, and safety devices as provided by federal regulations.

(d) (1) These length limitations shall not apply to:

(A) Vehicles operated in the daytime when transporting poles, pipes, machinery, or other objects of a structural nature which cannot readily be dismembered; or

(B) Vehicles transporting objects operated at nighttime by a public utility or its agents or by electric or telephone cooperatives or their agents when required for emergency repair of public facilities or properties or when operated under special permit as provided by law.

(2) In respect to night transportation, every vehicle and the load thereon shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

(e) (1) (A) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this subchapter, a combination of vehicles engaged in the transportation of automobiles or other motor vehicles shall be permitted a load extension of three feet (3') beyond the front and four feet (4') beyond the rear of the combination.

(B) This extension shall not be considered in determining the overall length of the combination of vehicles.

(2) Clearance lights or reflectors on the transported vehicles shall be used to delineate the extension of the load when applicable.

(f) No motor vehicle shall be operated on the highways, roads, or streets of this state with more than two (2) trailing vehicles.

(g) Subsection (a) of this section does not apply to vehicles collecting garbage, rubbish, refuse, or recyclable materials which are equipped with front-end loading attachments and containers provided that the vehicle is actively engaged in the collection of garbage, rubbish, refuse, or recyclable materials. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "actively engaged" shall mean during the actual process of collecting garbage, rubbish, refuse, or recyclable materials with the front-end loading attachment or attachments in the downward position.