

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 377—ASSEMBLYMAN WATTS

MARCH 20, 2019

Referred to Committee on Growth and Infrastructure

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing weight limits on certain vehicles. (BDR 43-802)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to vehicles; authorizing an exemption to certain weight limits on certain vehicles operating in this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law provides the same formula for calculating the maximum weight of vehicles that can be operated or moved upon any public highway in this State as is provided in federal law regarding the apportionment to each state of federal highway funds, which results, in most cases, in a maximum weight of 80,000 pounds. (23 U.S.C. § 127(a)(2); NRS 484D.635) Federal law also provides an exception for a vehicle that is operated by an engine fueled primarily by natural gas, which is authorized to exceed the 80,000 pound limit by up to 2,000 pounds, the exact amount allowed being equal to the difference between the weight of the vehicle attributable to the natural gas tank and fueling system and the weight of a comparable diesel tank and fueling system. (23 U.S.C. § 127(s)) **Section 1** of this bill authorizes, to the extent authorized by federal law, a vehicle that is powered by an engine fueled primarily by natural gas or by one or more electric motors to exceed the existing weight limit by not more than 2,000 pounds.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 484D.635 is hereby amended to read as follows:

484D.635 1. Except as otherwise provided in *this section and* NRS 484D.600, 484D.625, 484D.640, 484D.645 and 484D.660, a vehicle may be operated or moved upon any public highway if:



1 (a) The maximum weight on any single axle does not exceed
2 20,000 pounds.

3 (b) The maximum weight on any tandem axle does not exceed
4 34,000 pounds.

5 (c) The maximum weight per tire, measured by pounds per inch
6 of tire width, does not exceed 600 pounds per inch for a steering
7 axle and 500 pounds per inch for all other axles.

8 (d) Except for a steering axle and axles that weigh less than
9 10,000 pounds, each axle has at least four tires if the tire width of
10 each tire on the axle is less than or equal to 14 inches. If the
11 maximum weight per tire does not exceed 500 pounds per inch of
12 tire width, an axle may be equipped with tires that have a width of
13 more than 14 inches.

14 (e) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the maximum
15 overall gross weight on any group of two or more consecutive axles
16 does not exceed the values set forth in the following formula:
17 $W=500 [LN/(N-1) + 12N + 36]$ wherein:

18 (1) W equals the maximum load in pounds carried on any
19 group of two or more consecutive axles computed to the nearest 500
20 pounds;

21 (2) L equals the distance in feet between the extremes of any
22 group of two or more consecutive axles; and

23 (3) N equals the number of axles in the group under
24 consideration.

25 2. Two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load
26 of 34,000 pounds each if the distance between the first and last axles
27 of the consecutive sets of axles is 36 feet or more.

28 3. *To the extent authorized by federal law, a vehicle powered*
29 *primarily by one or more electric motors or by an engine fueled*
30 *primarily by natural gas may exceed the limits of this section by*
31 *not more than 2,000 pounds.*

32 4. As used in this section, "tire width" means the width set by
33 the manufacturer of the tire and inscribed on the sidewall of the tire.

