

ASSEMBLY, No. 534

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANGELICA M. JIMENEZ

District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOT and Division of Highway Traffic Safety to conduct study on vehicle size and weight enforcement.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.

1 **AN ACT** requiring a study on vehicle size and weight enforcement.

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3 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
4 *of New Jersey:*

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6 1. a. The Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation with
7 the Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the
8 Department of Law and Public Safety, shall conduct a study on
9 vehicle size and weight enforcement in this State and shall prepare
10 and submit a written report, within one year of the effective date of
11 this act, to the Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee and
12 the Chair of the Assembly Transportation and Independent
13 Authorities Committee, or their successor committees, which shall
14 include, but not be limited to, the following:

15 (1) the need for and cost of additional permanent scales;

16 (2) the need for and cost of additional portable scales;

17 (3) the feasibility and potential effectiveness of locating
18 additional permanent or portable scales near the borders of the
19 State, including, but not limited to, an area near the George
20 Washington Bridge;

21 (4) the feasibility and potential effectiveness of using permanent
22 weigh-in-motion scales for the purposes of vehicle size and weight
23 enforcement;

24 (5) results of enforcement efforts for the prior 12 months,
25 including, but not limited to, the number of vehicles weighed, the
26 number of citations issued categorized by the reason for the
27 citation, and the amount of money to be paid by violators as a result
28 of those citations;

29 (6) an analysis of whether the permit fee structure, including
30 any penalties for overweight or oversized vehicles, is appropriate
31 and effective; and

32 (7) an analysis of whether State law concerning vehicle size and
33 weight limits is compatible with federal law.

34 b. In addition to the written report submitted pursuant to
35 subsection a. of this section, the Commissioner of Transportation
36 and the Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the
37 Department of Law and Public Safety, individually or jointly, may
38 submit a proposal for legislation that, in the opinion of the

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1 commissioner or director, improves the laws of this State regarding
2 vehicle sizes and weights.

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4 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire upon
5 the submission of the written report to the Chair of the Senate
6 Transportation Committee and the Chair of the Assembly
7 Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee, or their
8 successor committees, pursuant to section 1 of this act.

STATEMENT

This bill requires the Commissioner of Transportation (commissioner), in consultation with the Director of the Division of Highway Traffic Safety in the Department of Law and Public Safety (director), to conduct a study on vehicle size and weight enforcement in the State and to prepare and submit a written report to the Legislature. The written report is to include:

- (1) the need for and cost of additional permanent scales;
- (2) the need for and cost of additional portable scales;
- (3) the feasibility and potential effectiveness of locating additional permanent or portable scales near the borders of the State, including, but not limited to, an area near the George Washington Bridge;
- (4) the feasibility and potential effectiveness of using permanent weigh-in-motion scales for the purposes of vehicle size and weight enforcement;
- (5) results of enforcement efforts, including, but not limited to, the number of vehicles weighed, the number of citations issued categorized by the reason for the citation, and the amount of money to be paid by violators as a result of those citations;
- (6) an analysis of whether the permit fee structure, including any penalties for overweight or oversized vehicles, is appropriate and effective; and
- (7) an analysis of whether State law concerning vehicle size and weight limits is compatible with federal law.

In addition to the written report, the commissioner and director, either individually or jointly, are authorized to submit a proposal for legislation that improves the laws of this State regarding vehicle sizes and weights.