

Safe and Efficient Transportation Act of 2009 (H.R. 1799)

Click [HERE](#) to view the legislative text. Below is a section-by-section of the Safe and Efficient Transportation Act of 2009 (H.R. 1799). Click [HERE](#) for a press release on the bill.

Section 1 – Title

This section entitles the bill the “Safe and Efficient Transportation Act of 2009”;

Section 2 – Increasing Weight Limitations for Certain Vehicles

The Safe and Efficient Transportation Act would allow a state to authorize six axle vehicles of up to 97,000 lbs. in gross vehicle weight to travel on their Interstate Systems.

This bill requires states to produce an annual report including routes within the state on which a truck weight limit in excess of 80,000 are allowed, a description of the operating requirements of those vehicles as required by the state, and safety statistics. The bill would also require a five year assessment of impacts, if any, of these vehicles on pavement and bridge maintenance costs. The bill also allows the Secretary of Transportation to terminate operation of vehicles over 80,000 lbs. on any routes on which it is determined that such operation poses an unreasonable safety risk.

Section 3 – Safe and Efficient Vehicle Bridge Infrastructure Improvement Program

This section establishes a Safe and Efficient Vehicle Bridge Infrastructure Improvement Program to apportion the funds raised through adjustments to the Overweight Vehicle Tax as described in Section 4. These funds would be kept in the Safe and Efficient Vehicle Trust Fund described in Section 5, until allocated to states in which the allowed weight limit, either as a result of this bill or previous exemptions, exceeds 80,000 lbs. This program would fund bridge modifications and repair.

Section 4 – Overweight Vehicle Tax

This section adjusts the overweight vehicle tax by raising the cap to \$800 per year.

Section 5 – Safe and Efficient Vehicle Trust Fund

This section establishes a Safe and Efficient Vehicle Trust fund to receive the funds being raised through the increase in the overweight vehicle tax cap. Allocations to states under the Act would be distributed from this fund.

