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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a length limitation on certain vehicles being transported by heavy-duty tow and recovery vehicles, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. TAYLOR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a length limitation on certain vehicles being transported by heavy-duty tow and recovery vehicles, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Towing Safety Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. COVERED HEAVY-DUTY TOW AND RECOVERY VEHI-**
6 **CLES.**

7 Section 127(m)(2) of title 23, United States Code,
8 is amended—

1 (1) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as
2 follows:

3 “(A) is responding to, returning from, or
4 transporting a wrecked or disabled vehicle from
5 the place where the vehicle became wrecked or
6 disabled to the nearest appropriate repair facil-
7 ity or other location, as directed by any agency
8 having jurisdiction;”;

9 (2) in subparagraph (B)—

10 (A) by inserting “rating” after “has a
11 gross vehicle weight”; and

12 (B) by striking the period at the end and
13 inserting a semicolon; and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(C) is traveling within a single State; and

16 “(D) has axle weights and a configuration
17 that can safely operate on highway bridges
18 along the route of travel as determined by the
19 transportation agency of jurisdiction.”.

20 **SEC. 3. LENGTH LIMITATIONS.**

21 Section 31111 of title 49, United States Code, is
22 amended—

23 (1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
24 following:

1 “(8) COVERED HEAVY-DUTY TOW AND RECOV-
2 ERY VEHICLE.—The term ‘covered heavy-duty tow
3 and recovery vehicle’ means any vehicle transporting
4 a wrecked or disabled vehicle from the place where
5 the vehicle became wrecked or disabled to the near-
6 est appropriate repair facility or other location, as
7 directed by any agency having jurisdiction.”; and

8 (2) in subsection (b)(1)—

9 (A) in subparagraph (G), by striking “;
10 or” and inserting a semicolon;

11 (B) in subparagraph (H), by striking the
12 period at the end and inserting a semicolon;
13 and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(I) imposes an overall length limit on any com-
16 bination of vehicles, or the length of any individual
17 vehicle in the combination configuration, being
18 transported by a covered heavy-duty tow and recov-
19 ery vehicle if the wrecked or disabled vehicle com-
20 bination being transported was in compliance with
21 applicable length limits at the time and place of the
22 initial wreck or disablement; or

23 “(J) imposes a limit to the number of vehicles
24 that may be transported in combination with a cov-
25 ered heavy-duty tow and recovery vehicle if the

1 wrecked or disabled vehicle combination being trans-
2 ported was in compliance with applicable limits at
3 the time and place of the initial wreck or disable-
4 ment.”.