

## S 779

### Safe Highways and Infrastructure Preservation Act

**Congress:** 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Transportation and Public Works

**Introduced:** Apr 1, 2009

**Current Status:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine. Hearings held. (Apr 28, 2010)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-bill/779>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NJ • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (7 total)

| Cosponsor                        | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]       | D · MA        |      | Apr 23, 2009 |
| Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]    | D · MO        |      | Apr 23, 2009 |
| Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]       | D · CA        |      | Jun 2, 2009  |
| Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]       | D · OH        |      | Jun 22, 2009 |
| Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]    | D · CA        |      | Jul 13, 2009 |
| Sen. Bond, Christopher S. [R-MO] | R · MO        |      | Sep 9, 2009  |
| Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]           | D · NM        |      | Sep 9, 2009  |

### Committee Activity

| Committee                                       | Chamber | Activity                   | Date         |
|---|---------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee | Senate  | Hearings By (subcommittee) | Apr 28, 2010 |
| Environment and Public Works Committee          | Senate  | Referred To                | Apr 1, 2009  |

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

### Related Bills

| Bill        | Relationship | Last Action   |
|-------------|--------------|---|
| 111 HR 1618 | Related bill | Mar 20, 2009: Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit. |

Safe Highways and Infrastructure Preservation Act - Prohibits a state from prescribing or enforcing any regulation that allows a restricted property-carrying unit (any trailer, semi-trailer, container, or other property-carrying unit longer than 53 feet, except for a fire-fighting unit) to operate on the National Highway System (NHS) (including the Interstate System), unless the operation of such unit is authorized by the state on June 1, 2008, and in actual and lawful operation on a regular or periodic basis (including seasonal operations) on or before that date.

Prohibits a state from allowing the operation of a commercial motor vehicle combination on the NHS (except a vehicle or load that cannot be dismantled or divided easily, and that has been issued a special permit under state law) with more than one property-carrying unit (excluding the truck tractor) whose property-carrying units are more than: (1) the maximum combination trailer, semi-trailer, or other type of length limitation allowed by state law on June 1, 2008; or (2) the length of the property-carrying units of those commercial motor vehicle combinations, by specific configuration, in actual and lawful operation on a regular or periodic basis (including continual seasonal operation) in such state on or before June 1, 2008.

Prohibits a state from allowing the operation of a vehicle or combination (other than a longer combination vehicle) exceeding Interstate weight limits on the Interstate System unless its operation was lawful: (1) on July 1, 1956; (2) in the case of the overall gross weight of any group of two or more consecutive axles, on January 4, 1975; or (3) under a special permit pursuant to state (grandfather) law.

Declares that Interstate weight limitations on vehicles and combinations (other than longer combination vehicles) that operate on the Interstate System shall also apply to such vehicles and combinations that operate on non-Interstate segments of the NHS, unless: (1) such segments are subject to lower state weight limits; or (2) a state allows the operation of any vehicle or combination on an existing non-Interstate segment of the NHS that could be so operated lawfully on June 1, 2008.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Apr 28, 2010:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine. Hearings held.
- **Apr 1, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 1, 2009:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.