

Mr. McCARTHY. Would the gentleman from Florida yield?

Mr. CRAMER. The gentleman from Texas yielded to me.

Mr. McCARTHY. Would the gentleman from Texas yield?

Mr. WRIGHT. Yes.

Mr. McCARTHY. What would be the width of three buses stacked as the gentleman from Florida suggested, one right after the other. What is the length of the typical bus?

Mr. GREENSLIT. It is 40 feet.

Mr. McCARTHY. So that three of them would be, if they were close to each other, the gentleman from Florida would suggest about 120 feet.

Mr. GREENSLIT. That would be the length.

Mr. McCARTHY. I would like to say it would be almost impossible to pass. I have a picture here of one of the new rigs that is running on the New York State Thruway which is three separate trailers. I might just pass this around. It is 105 feet in length. If we pass this bill, this would be permitted, three trucks actually, one tractor and three trailers in a row. It would be almost the same as three buses stacked right close to one another.

Mr. GREENSLIT. I guess that is so.

Mr. McCARTHY. Would one of your buses have difficulty passing something like this?

Mr. GREENSLIT. Well, it depends on what kind of road you are on. It would be no problem on the Interstate System, assuming the truck was in the right-hand lane and left the passing lane open, there would not be any problem.

Mr. McCARTHY. I think the gentleman from Florida's point is a good one, that the individual buses running two or three together pose a tremendous problem. If we pass this, you will have trucks like this rig, that are 105 feet long and it will be the same thing.

Mr. GREENSLIT. Well, that is true.

Mr. CRAMER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. McCARTHY. Yes. I yield.

Mr. CRAMER. Of course at the present time there is no prohibition relating to length in the present law. So the basic question is whether there should be any relating to the interstate.

Mr. McCARTHY. The effect of increasing weight will be to permit longer lengths.

Mr. CRAMER. I disagree with you.

Mr. GREENSLIT. That will not be true on buses.

Mr. WRIGHT. It would seem to me, Mr. Chairman, that the situation pictured here in the photograph that Mr. McCarthy has shown us, if a truck of this length is now permitted on a primary system within a given State, it is somewhat beyond the scope of the present law and would also be beyond the scope of this suggested amendment.

All that would be involved in this proposal would be to permit the States more freedom to determine what may be done on the Interstate System within certain limitations.

Now, it strikes me that a situation like this portrayed in the photograph could be extremely hazardous if it were permitted on a two lane road where you do not have a free and clear passing lane. I would hate to have to follow a thing like that down a narrow highway and try to pass it.