

## CHAPTER 45

**AN ACT** prohibiting certain trucks and truck-trailer combinations from using certain portions of State Highway Route No. 29 for through travel, and supplementing article 21 of chapter 4 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes.

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

C.39:4-197.16 Findings, declarations relative to prohibiting certain trucks, truck-trailer combinations from using portions of Route 29.

1. The Legislature finds that sections of State Highway Route 29, from its intersection with Interstate Route 95 to its northern terminus at State Highway Route 12, have sharp curves, minimal shoulders and limited sight distances. The Legislature further finds that the use of Route 29 between the stated points by heavy vehicles constitutes a hazard to the traveling public, as evidenced by serious accidents on that roadway, some including fatalities, and confirmed by extensive formal public comments, in recognition of which the Department of Transportation issued a traffic regulation order on November 15, 2000 temporarily prohibiting heavy trucks and truck-trailer combinations from using Route 29 between the stated points for through travel. The Legislature further finds that there are nearby alternative through routings which have significantly better overall roadway conditions and geometric designs.

The Legislature finds and declares that State Highway Route 29, from its intersection with Interstate 95 to its northern terminus at State Highway Route 12, is inappropriate for through travel by truck and truck-trailer combinations which exceed 26,000 pounds in weight, and that these vehicles should be permanently prohibited from using that roadway.

C.39:4-197-17 Weight prohibitions.

2. Except as otherwise provided in section 3 of this act, truck and truck-trailer combinations which exceed 26,000 pounds in gross registered vehicle weight, gross vehicle weight rating, or gross combination weight rating regardless of their dimensions, are prohibited from using State Highway Route 29, in either the northbound or southbound travel lanes, from its intersection with Interstate Route 95 to its northern terminus at State Highway Route 12.

C.39:4-197.18 Exceptions for emergency, government or local service.

3. The prohibitions contained in section 2 of this act shall not apply to emergency vehicles, government owned or leased vehicles, vehicles which have an origin or final destination on or within three miles of the prohibited sections of State Highway Route 29, or vehicles making an actual pickup, delivery or providing services at a location on or within three miles of the prohibited sections.

C.39:4-197.19 Exceptions for certain vehicles after hearing.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2 of this act, the Commissioner of Transportation in accordance with the provisions of section 2 of P.L.1998, c.28 (C.39:4-8.3) may after the holding of a public meeting by written order provide for the use of the prohibited portions of State Route 29 by vehicles engaged in the commercial transportation of certain rapidly setting concrete mixtures under circumstances in which adherence to the prohibitions set forth in this act makes delivery impossible or economically impracticable.

C.39:4-197.20 Necessary signage by DOT.

5. The provisions of this act shall not be enforceable until the Commissioner of Transportation has caused to be erected such signage as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act, which shall be done no later than 90 days following enactment.

C.39:4-197.21 Violations, fines.

6. The driver, owner, lessee, bailee or any one of the foregoing of any truck or truck-trailer combination found or operated in violation of the provisions of this act shall be fined not more than \$400 for the first offense, and shall be subject to a fine of \$700 for the second offense and a fine of \$1,000 for each subsequent offense.

7. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved March 30, 2001.