

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Deckert, George L., Monnes Anderson, Starr, Metsger
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Janet Adkins, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 1-18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Allows a truck with a fully functional alternative power unit to weigh up to 400 pounds more than the maximum allowable weight limit for that truck configuration. Also allows trucks with such power units to exceed individual axle weight limits. Takes effect on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Benefits and increasing use of the power units
- Federal requirements

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Truck engines are often idled instead of turned off at truck stops and rest areas because the engine operates the cab's heating, air conditioning, and other devices. Truck stops may be equipped with electrification, but for stopping at other places, trucking companies are now using alternative power units. Use of the units reduces emissions and fuel consumption by ten to fifteen percent over use of the idling engine.

The Federal Energy Act of 2005 mandates that states allow a 400-pound weight limit exception for trucks equipped with the engine idle (alternative power) system.

SB 223 provides an allowance of up to 400 pounds of the weight of the alternative power unit for purposes of overweight truck restrictions. An allowance from individual axle weights is also provided by the bill.