

ARKANSAS REGISTER

Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



Secretary of State
John Thurston
500 Woodlane Street, Suite 026
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1094
(501) 682-5070
www.sos.arkansas.gov



Name of Department _____

Agency or Division Name _____

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable _____

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable _____

Contact Person _____

Contact E-mail _____

Contact Phone _____

Name of Rule _____

Newspaper Name _____

Date of Publishing _____

Final Date for Public Comment _____

Location and Time of Public Meeting _____

**Amendment to Permit Rules
For the Movement of Oversize and Overweight Vehicles
On The Arkansas State Highway System**

SECTION 1. Rule 2(A)(3) of the Permit Rules for the Movement of Oversize Vehicles on the State Highway System, concerning the legal limits for dimension and weight of vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

3. The rules and regulations as described herein are designed to permit, under special conditions, and to ensure the safe movement of vehicles and equipment which exceed any one or more of the following legal limits for dimension or weight:

Table of Legal Dimensions and Weight Limits:

WIDTH:	8 feet, 6 inches (8 feet for manufactured homes)
HEIGHT:	13 feet, 6 inches <u>14 feet</u>
LENGTH:	Determined by trailer length as required by law.
WEIGHT:	80,000 pounds gross weight of vehicle(s) and cargo on 5 or more axles. Must meet the Federal bridge formula for 80,000 pounds
AXLE WEIGHT: Single Load-Carrying Axle:	20,000 pounds
	Tandem Axle Group: 34,000 pounds
	Tri-Axle Group: 50,000 pounds
STEER AXLE: Single Steer/Front Axle:	12,000 to 20,000 pounds, axle must be rated by the manufacturer for weight.
	Tandem Steer/Front Axle: 24,000 pounds

SECTION 2. Rule 3(F)(1) of the Permit Rules for the Movement of Oversize Vehicles on the State Highway System, concerning the legal limits for dimension and weight of vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

1. Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 27-35-207, no vehicles operated upon the State Highway System laden or unladen, shall exceed a height of ~~thirteen feet and six inches (13'6")~~ fourteen feet (14') except by permit issued by the Permit Section.

SECTION 3. Rule 14(A) of the Permit Rules for the Movement of Oversize Vehicles on the State Highway System, concerning the legal limits for dimension and weight of vehicles, is amended to read as follows:

A. Introduction

Vehicles utilized to transport compacted seed cotton that exceed nine feet (9') in width, fifty-five feet (55') in length, or ~~thirteen feet six inches (13'6")~~ fourteen feet (14') in height shall have a valid oversize permit issued by the AHP Permit Section in order to travel the highways of the State.

Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated § 27-35-203, vehicles traveling on non-interstate highways and only having three (3) axles, shall not exceed an overall gross weight of seventy thousand pounds (70,000) and four (4) axles or more shall not exceed an overall gross weight of eighty thousand pounds (80,000).

QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR FILING PROPOSED RULES WITH THE
ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY _____
DIVISION _____
DIVISION DIRECTOR _____
CONTACT PERSON _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE NO. _____ FAX NO. _____ E-MAIL _____
NAME OF PRESENTER AT COMMITTEE MEETING _____
PRESENTER E-MAIL _____

INSTRUCTIONS

- A. Please make copies of this form for future use.
- B. Please answer each question completely using layman terms. You may use additional sheets if necessary.
- C. If you have a method of indexing your rules, please give the proposed citation after "Short Title of this
- D. Rule" below.
- E. Submit two (2) copies of the Questionnaire and Financial Impact Statement attached to the front of two (2) copies of the proposed rule and required documents. Mail or deliver to:

Jessica C. Sutton
Administrative Rules Review Section
Arkansas Legislative Council
Bureau of Legislative Research
One Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Little Rock, AR 72201

1. What is the short title of this rule?

2. What is the subject of the proposed rule?

3. Is this rule required to comply with a federal statute, rule, or regulation? Yes No

If yes, please provide the federal rule, regulation, and/or statute citation.

4. Was this rule filed under the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act?

Yes No

If yes, what is the effective date of the emergency rule? _____

When does the emergency rule expire? _____

Will this emergency rule be promulgated under the permanent provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act? Yes No

5. Is this a new rule? Yes No If yes, please provide a brief summary explaining the rule.

Does this repeal an existing rule? Yes No If yes, a copy of the repealed rule is to be included with your completed questionnaire. If it is being replaced with a new rule, please provide a summary of the rule giving an explanation of what the rule does.

Is this an amendment to an existing rule? Yes No If yes, please attach a mark-up showing the changes in the existing rule and a summary of the substantive changes. Note: The summary should explain what the amendment does, and the mark-up copy should be clearly labeled “mark-up.”

6. Cite the state law that grants the authority for this proposed rule? If codified, please give the Arkansas Code citation.

7. What is the purpose of this proposed rule? Why is it necessary?

8. Please provide the address where this rule is publicly accessible in electronic form via the Internet as required by Arkansas Code § 25-19-108(b).

9. Will a public hearing be held on this proposed rule? Yes No If yes, please complete the following:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

10. When does the public comment period expire for permanent promulgation? (Must provide a date.)

11. What is the proposed effective date of this proposed rule? (Must provide a date.)

12. Please provide a copy of the notice required under Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(a), and proof of the publication of said notice. _____

13. Please provide proof of filing the rule with the Secretary of State as required pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e). _____

14. Please give the names of persons, groups, or organizations that you expect to comment on these rules? Please provide their position (for or against) if known.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY

DEPARTMENT _____
DIVISION _____
PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT _____
TELEPHONE NO. _____ FAX NO. _____ EMAIL: _____

To comply with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e), please complete the following Financial Impact Statement and file two (2) copies with the Questionnaire and proposed rules.

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule have a financial impact? Yes No
2. Is the rule based on the best reasonably obtainable scientific, technical, economic, or other evidence and information available concerning the need for, consequences of, and alternatives to the rule?
Yes No
3. In consideration of the alternatives to this rule, was this rule determined by the agency to be the least costly rule considered? Yes No

If an agency is proposing a more costly rule, please state the following:

- a) How the additional benefits of the more costly rule justify its additional cost;
- b) The reason for adoption of the more costly rule;
- c) Whether the more costly rule is based on the interests of public health, safety, or welfare, and if so, please explain; and
- d) Whether the reason is within the scope of the agency's statutory authority, and if so, please explain.

4. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a federal rule or regulation, please state the following:

a) What is the cost to implement the federal rule or regulation?

Current Fiscal Year

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total _____

Total _____

b) What is the additional cost of the state rule?

Current Fiscal Year

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

General Revenue _____
Federal Funds _____
Cash Funds _____
Special Revenue _____
Other (Identify) _____

Total _____

Total _____

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any private individual, entity and business subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? Identify the entity(ies) subject to the proposed rule and explain how they are affected.

Current Fiscal Year

Next Fiscal Year

\$ _____

\$ _____

6. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to state, county, and municipal government to implement this rule? Is this the cost of the program or grant? Please explain how the government is affected.

Current Fiscal Year

Next Fiscal Year

\$ _____

\$ _____

7. With respect to the agency's answers to Questions #5 and #6 above, is there a new or increased cost or obligation of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year to a private individual, private entity, private business, state government, county government, municipal government, or to two (2) or more of those entities combined?

Yes No

If YES, the agency is required by Ark. Code Ann. § 25-15-204(e)(4) to file written findings at the time of filing the financial impact statement. The written findings shall be filed simultaneously with the financial impact statement and shall include, without limitation, the following:

- (1) a statement of the rule's basis and purpose;
- (2) the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule, including a statement of whether a rule is required by statute;
- (3) a description of the factual evidence that:
 - (a) justifies the agency's need for the proposed rule; and
 - (b) describes how the benefits of the rule meet the relevant statutory objectives and justify the rule's costs;
- (4) a list of less costly alternatives to the proposed rule and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (5) a list of alternatives to the proposed rule that were suggested as a result of public comment and the reasons why the alternatives do not adequately address the problem to be solved by the proposed rule;
- (6) a statement of whether existing rules have created or contributed to the problem the agency seeks to address with the proposed rule and, if existing rules have created or contributed to the problem, an explanation of why amendment or repeal of the rule creating or contributing to the problem is not a sufficient response; and
- (7) an agency plan for review of the rule no less than every ten (10) years to determine whether, based upon the evidence, there remains a need for the rule including, without limitation, whether:
 - (a) the rule is achieving the statutory objectives;
 - (b) the benefits of the rule continue to justify its costs; and
 - (c) the rule can be amended or repealed to reduce costs while continuing to achieve the statutory objectives.

Arkansas Department of Transportation

Summary of Amendment to the Permit Rules for the Movement of Oversize Vehicles on the State Highway System

In 2021, the 93rd General Assembly of the State of Arkansas enacted Act 871 during the Regular Session which amended the law concerning the maximum vehicle height in Arkansas. The maximum vehicle height was increased from 13' 6" to 14'. This was part of the Commission's approved Legislative Package.

The increase in the maximum vehicle height is to provide increased hauling volume for lightweight agricultural commodities, such as rice hulls, while maintaining load weights that are at or under the legal limit. This change in State law is also needed because the lightweight agricultural commodities are divisible loads.