

AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 4, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 6, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1250**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Bloom**

February 27, 2015

---

---

An act to amend Section 35554 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1250, as amended, Bloom. Vehicles: buses: axle weight.

Existing law, operative January 1, 2016, provides that the gross weight on any one axle of a bus shall not exceed 20,500 pounds. Existing law exempts from this limitation a transit bus procured through a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was issued before January 1, 2013. A violation of this provision is a crime.

This bill would exempt from the weight limitation transit buses procured through a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was issued before January 1, 2016. *The bill would provide that the weight limitation would not apply to a bus purchased during an option period in a multiyear contract to purchase transit buses that is entered into before January 1, 2016, by a publicly owned or operated transit system, or an operator of a transit system under contract with a publicly owned or operated transit system, provided that the option period does not exceed 5 years from the date of the original contract, or extend beyond January 1, 2021, whichever is earlier.* This bill would also establish certain weight limitations for transit buses procured through

a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was issued at a specified time. The bill would provide that these provisions do not authorize the operation of a transit bus on a bridge *or certain other structures* if the gross weight of the *transit bus exceeds the single vehicle maximum weight limit to which that bridge was designed, except as specified*. *is greater than the maximum weight which the bridge or other structure can safely sustain.* Because a violation of these provisions would be a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

*The bill would require a transit operator operating an articulated bus to provide notice, by July 1, 2016, to all cities and counties in whose jurisdiction the bus will operate in the upcoming calendar year, of the approximate routes upon which the bus will operate. The bill would also require an annual notice by July 1 thereafter to all cities and counties under whose jurisdiction the bus will operate, identifying any changes to the service on those routes or any new routes upon which the bus is expected to be scheduled for the upcoming calendar year.*

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 35554 of the Vehicle Code, as amended  
2 by Section 2 of Chapter 263 of the Statutes of 2014, is amended  
3 to read:  
4 35554. (a) (1) Notwithstanding Section 35550, the maximum  
5 gross weight on any one axle of a bus shall not exceed 20,500  
6 pounds.  
7 (2) This subdivision does not apply to a transit bus procured  
8 through a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was  
9 issued before January 1, 2016. *This subdivision does not apply to*  
10 *a bus purchased during an option period in a multiyear contract*  
11 *to purchase transit buses that is entered into before January 1,*  
12 *2016, by a publicly owned or operated transit system, or an*  
13 *operator of a transit system under contract with a publicly owned*

1 *or operated transit system, provided, however, that the option*  
2 *period does not exceed five years from the date of the original*  
3 *contract, or extend beyond January 1, 2021, whichever is earlier.*

4 (b) A transit bus is not subject to Section 35550.

5 (c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the following provisions  
6 shall apply to a transit bus:

7 (1) The unladen weight on any one axle of a transit bus procured  
8 through a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was  
9 issued between January 1, 2016, and December 31, 2017, shall  
10 not exceed 25,000 pounds.

11 (2) The unladen weight on any one axle of a transit bus procured  
12 through a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was  
13 issued between January 1, 2018, and December 31, 2019, shall  
14 not exceed 24,000 pounds.

15 (3) The unladen weight on any one axle of a transit bus procured  
16 through a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was  
17 issued between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2021, shall  
18 not exceed 23,000 pounds.

19 (4) The unladen weight on any one axle of a transit bus procured  
20 through a solicitation process pursuant to which a solicitation was  
21 issued on or after January 1, 2022, shall not exceed 22,000 pounds.

22 (d) ~~Nothing in this article shall be construed to authorize the~~  
23 ~~operation of a transit bus on a bridge if the gross weight of the~~  
24 ~~transit bus exceeds the single vehicle maximum weight limit to~~  
25 ~~which that bridge was designed, unless the agency owning and~~  
26 ~~operating the transit bus has obtained a permit from the agency~~  
27 ~~owning the bridge to operate such a transit bus on that bridge. a~~  
28 ~~vehicle described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) or described~~  
29 ~~in subdivision (c) to be operated in violation of Section 35753.~~

30 (e) *A transit operator operating an articulated transit bus shall,*  
31 *by July 1, 2016, provide notice to all cities and counties in whose*  
32 *jurisdiction the bus will operate in the upcoming calendar year,*  
33 *identifying the approximate routes upon which the bus is expected*  
34 *to be scheduled for service, including the names of streets and*  
35 *roads upon which that service is likely to take place. Thereafter,*  
36 *a transit operator operating an articulated transit bus shall*  
37 *annually provide notice by July 1, to all cities and counties in*  
38 *whose jurisdiction the bus will operate in the upcoming calendar*  
39 *year, identifying any changes to the service on those routes and*  
40 *any new routes upon which the bus is expected to be scheduled*

1 *for the upcoming year. The notice shall include data from*  
2 *information provided by the bus manufacturer to the transit*  
3 *operator, identifying the weight of the articulated bus.*

4 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to  
5 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because  
6 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school  
7 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or  
8 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty  
9 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of  
10 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within  
11 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California  
12 Constitution.