



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
1401 EAST BROAD STREET  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2000

Stephen C. Brich, P.E.  
COMMISSIONER

July 14, 2020

**TO:** Affected Agencies and Shippers/Carriers  
**SUBJECT:** Waiver for Carriers Transporting Essential Emergency Relief Supplies or Providing Emergency Restoration of Infrastructure Services. (Amendment 5)

In order to provide preparedness and response support to areas affected by COVID-19 Governor Northam has declared a State of Emergency to exist for the Commonwealth of Virginia and is seeking to grant temporary overweight, over width, registration, license, or hours of service exemptions to all carriers transporting emergency relief supplies to, through and from any area of the Commonwealth. This authorization provides for direct assistance in support of 1.) Livestock and livestock feed. 2.) Medical supplies and equipment related to the testing, diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19; and 3.) Supplies and equipment necessary for community safety, sanitation, and prevention of community transmission of COVID-19 such as masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and disinfectants. Direct assistance does not include routine commercial deliveries, including mixed loads, with a nominal quantity of qualifying emergency relief materials to obtain the benefits of this waiver.

As a result, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles authorizes a temporary waiver of registration and licensing requirements for carrier, and the Commissioner of Highways authorizes a temporary waiver of normal weight and width restrictions on roads controlled by the Virginia Department of Transportation, for the express purpose of ensuring that emergency essential supplies and services reach impacted areas in timely manner. Weight exemptions are not valid on interstate highways unless there is an associated federal emergency declaration. At this time, there is an associated Presidential Declaration of Emergency (FEMA DR-4512) under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. This document shall provide a carrier with special permitting authority when traveling on the interstate while responding to this pandemic. This is to be effective beginning **12:00 AM July 14, 2020 until 11:59PM August 14, 2020** and includes an exemption in coordination with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management which activates the FMCSA Section 390.23 Relief of Regulations including hours of service.


Weight exemptions are not valid on posted structures for restricted weight. The exemption shall not exceed the duration of the motor carrier's or drivers direct assistance in providing emergency relief.

<u>TRUCK TYPE</u>	<u>MAX G.V.W.</u>	<u>SINGLE AXLE</u>	<u>TANDEM AXLE</u>	<u>3 AXLE GROUP</u>	<u>4 AXLE GROUP</u>
3 AXLES	60,000	24K	44K	54.5K	64.5K
4 AXLES	70,000	24K	44K	54.5K	64.5K
5+ AXLES	90,000	24K	44K	54.5K	64.5K
6+ AXLES	100,000	24K	44/k	54.5K	64.5K

All over width loads, up to a maximum of 12 feet, and over height loads up to a maximum of 14 feet must follow Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles hauling permit and safety guidelines.

This information is for immediate dissemination to preclude inadvertent ticketing or detention. Multi-agency support and cooperation is appreciated. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Earl Sharp at (804) 786-4692.

Sincerely,



Stephen C. Brich, P.E.  
Commissioner of Highways