

# House Research Act Summary

**CHAPTER:** 297

**SESSION:** 2002 Regular Session

**TOPIC:** Penalties for vehicle weight violations

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## Overview

This act limits the total civil fines that may be imposed on the basis of evidence from weight tickets kept by a receiver of shipments, and limits the time that state enforcement personnel have to go back over old weight tickets. It also increases the penalty for intentionally evading fixed scales.

- 1 **Evading scales.** Doubles the fine for a vehicle weight violation if the court finds that the violator in committing the violation intentionally evaded fixed weighing stations or other stationary scales.  
  
Limits to \$10,000 the maximum civil penalty that may be imposed on a person for violating gross weight laws for motor vehicles when the penalty is based on use of shippers' weight records.
- 2 **Retention of weight records.** Reduces from 30 to 14 days the time that persons who weigh goods before or after unloading must keep records of the weights available to state officials.
- 3 **Limit on civil penalties.** Allows civil penalties for overweight based on weight records only if the record was inspected and copied by a state law enforcement officer or motor transportation representative within 14 days of the date the record-keeper received the shipment.