

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 1159
Version: As introduced

DATE: March 9, 2015

Authors: Nash and others

Subject: Aerodynamic devices vehicle length limit exclusion

Analyst: Matt Burress

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This bill establishes an exemption from length limits on vehicles and trailers for aerodynamic devices (which are angled panels attached to the end of commercial vehicle semi-trailers in order to reduce drag from wind) as identified under a federal exemption that applies for some highways. Among the requirements, an aerodynamic device is affixed to the rear of the trailer and must:

- extend no more than five feet out;
- lack the strength or rigidity to damage other vehicles or harm passengers in a collision; and
- not obscure other safety equipment such as tail and brake lights, turn signals, and various identification lamps. 23 C.F.R. § 658.16 (b)(4).