

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5835

Chapter 75, Laws of 1991

52nd Legislature
1991 Regular Session

SKI AREAS--SIGN REQUIREMENTS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/28/91

Passed by the Senate March 13, 1991
Yeas 46 Nays 0

JOEL PRITCHARD
President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 17, 1991
Yeas 96 Nays 0

JOE KING
**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved May 3, 1991

BOOTH GARDNER
Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Gordon Golob, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5835** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

GORDON A. GOLOB
Secretary

FILED

May 3, 1991 - 10:11 a.m.

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5835

Passed Legislature - 1991 Regular Session

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Sellar, Talmadge and Nelson).

Read first time March 6, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to conveyances for recreational purposes at ski
2 areas; and amending RCW 70.117.010, 70.88.080, and 70.88.090.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.117.010 and 1989 c 81 s 2 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The operator of any ski area shall maintain a sign system based
7 on international or national standards and as may be required by the
8 state parks and recreation commission.

9 All signs for instruction of the public shall be bold in design
10 with wording short, simple, and to the point. All such signs shall be
11 prominently placed.

12 Entrances to all machinery, operators', and attendants' rooms shall
13 be posted to the effect that unauthorized persons are not permitted
14 therein.

1 The sign "Working on Lift" or a similar warning sign shall be hung
2 on the main disconnect switch and at control points for starting the
3 auxiliary or prime mover when a person is working on the passenger
4 tramway.

5 ~~((2) The interior of each reversible aerial tramway and gondola
6 lift shall be prominently posted to show:~~

7 ~~(a) The maximum capacity of each reversible aerial tramway and
8 gondola lift in pounds and number of passengers (which shall also be
9 posted at each loading area); and~~

10 ~~(b) Instructions for procedure in emergencies.~~

11 ~~(3) The following signs shall be posted at all aerial lifts except
12 gondola lifts:~~

13 ~~(a) "Prepare to Unload" (not less than fifty feet ahead of
14 unloading area);~~

15 ~~(b) "Keep Ski Tips Up" (ahead of any point where skis may come in
16 contact with a platform or the snow surface);~~

17 ~~(c) "Unload Here";~~

18 ~~(d) "Safety Gate" (if applicable);~~

19 ~~(e) "Remove Pole Straps from Wrists" (at loading area); and~~

20 ~~(f) Sign visible at all points of downhill loading, listing
21 downhill capacity of lift.~~

22 ~~(4) The following signs shall be posted at all surface lifts:~~

23 ~~(a) "Prepare to Unload" (not less than fifty feet ahead of
24 unloading area);~~

25 ~~(b) "Stay in Track";~~

26 ~~(c) "Unload Here";~~

27 ~~(d) "Safety Gate"; and~~

28 ~~(e) "Remove Pole Straps from Wrists" (at loading area).~~

29 ~~(5) The following signs shall be posted at all tows:~~

30 ~~(a) "No Loose Scarves~~

1 ~~No Loose Clothing~~

2 ~~No Long Hair Exposed"~~

3 ~~(at loading area);~~

4 ~~(b) "Stay in Track";~~

5 ~~(c) "Unload Here"; and~~

6 ~~(d) "Safety Gate".~~

7 ~~(6))~~ (2) All signs required for normal daytime operation shall be
8 in place, and those pertaining to the tramway, lift, or tow operations
9 shall be adequately lighted for night skiing.

10 ~~((7))~~ (3) If a particular trail or run has been closed to the
11 public by an operator, the operator shall place a notice thereof at the
12 top of the trail or run involved, and no person shall ski on a run or
13 trail which has been designated "Closed".

14 ~~((8))~~ (4) An operator shall place a notice at the embarking
15 terminal or terminals of a lift or tow which has been closed that the
16 lift or tow has been closed and that a person embarking on such a lift
17 or tow shall be considered to be a trespasser.

18 ~~((9))~~ (5) Any snow making machines or equipment shall be clearly
19 visible and clearly marked. Snow grooming equipment or any other
20 vehicles shall be equipped with a yellow flashing light at any time the
21 vehicle is moving on or in the vicinity of a ski run; however, low
22 profile vehicles, such as snowmobiles, may be identified in the
23 alternative with a flag on a mast of not less than six feet in height.

24 ~~((10))~~ (6) The operator of any ski area shall maintain a readily
25 visible sign on each rope tow, wire rope tow, j-bar, t-bar, ski lift,
26 or other similar device, advising the users of the device that:

27 (a) Any person not familiar with the operation of the lift shall
28 ask the operator thereof for assistance and/or instruction; and

1 (b) The skiing-ability level recommended for users of the lift and
2 the runs served by the device shall be classified "easiest", "more
3 difficult", and "most difficult".

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 70.88.080 and 1990 c 136 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Inspections, rules, and orders of the state parks and recreation
7 commission resulting from the exercise of the provisions of this
8 chapter(~~(, as well as under RCW 70.88.020,)~~) and chapter 70.117 RCW
9 shall not in any manner be deemed to impose liability upon the state
10 for any injury or damage resulting from the operation or signing of the
11 facilities regulated by this chapter, and all actions of the state
12 parks and recreation commission and its personnel shall be deemed to be
13 an exercise of the police power of the state.

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 70.88.090 and 1959 c 327 s 9 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 The state parks and recreation commission is empowered to adopt
17 reasonable rules(~~(, regulations,)~~) and codes relating to public safety
18 in the construction, operation, signing, and maintenance of the
19 recreational devices provided for in this chapter. The rules(~~(, regulations)~~)
20 ~~regulations~~) and codes authorized hereunder shall be in accordance
21 with established standards, if any, and shall not be discriminatory in
22 their application.

Passed the Senate March 13, 1991.

Passed the House April 17, 1991.

Approved by the Governor May 3, 1991.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 3, 1991.