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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1221**

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**State of Washington**

**54th Legislature**

**1995 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Johnson, Buck, Cairnes, Hatfield, Chappell and Sheldon)

Read first time 02/08/95.

1 AN ACT Relating to log trucks and pole trailers; amending RCW  
2 46.44.030; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.030 and 1994 c 59 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways  
7 of this state any vehicle having an overall length, with or without  
8 load, in excess of forty feet. This restriction does not apply to (1)  
9 a municipal transit vehicle, (2) auto stage, private carrier bus or  
10 school bus with an overall length not to exceed forty-six feet, or (3)  
11 an articulated auto stage with an overall length not to exceed sixty-  
12 one feet.

13 ~~((It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of this  
14 state any combination of vehicles that contains a vehicle in excess of  
15 forty-eight feet, with or without load.))~~

16 It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways  
17 of this state any combination consisting of a tractor and semitrailer  
18 that has a semitrailer length in excess of fifty-three feet or a  
19 combination consisting of a tractor and two trailers in which the

1 combined length of the trailers exceeds sixty-one feet, with or without  
2 load.

3 It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of this  
4 state any combination consisting of a truck and trailer, or log truck  
5 and stinger-steered pole trailer, with an overall length, with or  
6 without load, in excess of seventy-five feet. However, a combination  
7 of vehicles transporting automobiles or boats may have a front overhang  
8 of three feet and a rear overhang of four feet beyond this allowed  
9 length. "Stinger-steered," as used in this section, means the coupling  
10 device is located behind the tread of the tires of the last axle of the  
11 towing vehicle.

12 These length limitations do not apply to vehicles transporting  
13 poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural nature that  
14 cannot be dismembered and operated by a public utility when required  
15 for emergency repair of public service facilities or properties, but in  
16 respect to night transportation every such vehicle and load thereon  
17 shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both  
18 sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to  
19 clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

20 The length limitations described in this section are exclusive of  
21 safety and energy conservation devices, such as mud flaps and splash  
22 and spray suppressant devices, refrigeration units or air compressors,  
23 and other devices that the department determines to be necessary for  
24 safe and efficient operation of commercial vehicles. No device  
25 excluded under this paragraph from the limitations of this section may  
26 have, by its design or use, the capability to carry cargo.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
28 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
29 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
30 June 1, 1995.

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