

2 **SSB 5177 - H COMM AMD ADOPTED 4-10-97**

3 By Committee on Transportation Policy & Budget

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5 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
6 following:

7 "Sec. 1. RCW 46.61.100 and 1986 c 93 s 2 are each amended to read
8 as follows:

9 (1) Upon all roadways of sufficient width a vehicle shall be driven
10 upon the right half of the roadway, except as follows:

11 (a) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the
12 same direction under the rules governing such movement;

13 (b) When an obstruction exists making it necessary to drive to the
14 left of the center of the highway; provided, any person so doing shall
15 yield the right of way to all vehicles traveling in the proper
16 direction upon the unobstructed portion of the highway within such
17 distance as to constitute an immediate hazard;

18 (c) Upon a roadway divided into three marked lanes and providing
19 for two-way movement traffic under the rules applicable thereon; or

20 (d) Upon a street or highway restricted to one-way traffic.

21 (2) Upon all roadways having two or more lanes for traffic moving
22 in the same direction, all vehicles shall be driven in the right-hand
23 lane then available for traffic, except (a) when overtaking and passing
24 another vehicle proceeding in the same direction, (b) when traveling at
25 a speed greater than the traffic flow, (c) when moving left to allow
26 traffic to merge, or (d) when preparing for a left turn at an
27 intersection, exit, or into a private road or driveway when such left
28 turn is legally permitted. On any such roadway, a ~~((motor-truck))~~
29 vehicle or combination over ten thousand pounds shall be driven only in
30 the right-hand lane except under the conditions enumerated in (a)
31 through (d) of this subsection.

32 (3) No vehicle towing a trailer or no vehicle or combination over
33 ten thousand pounds may be driven in the left-hand lane of a limited
34 access roadway having three or more lanes for traffic moving in one
35 direction except when preparing for a left turn at an intersection,
36 exit, or into a private road or driveway when a left turn is legally

1 permitted. This subsection does not apply to a vehicle using a high-
2 occupancy vehicle lane. A high-occupancy vehicle lane is not
3 considered the left-hand lane of a roadway. The department of
4 transportation, in consultation with the Washington state patrol, shall
5 adopt rules specifying (a) those circumstances where it is permissible
6 for other vehicles to use the left lane in case of emergency or to
7 facilitate the orderly flow of traffic, and (b) those segments of
8 limited access roadway to be exempt from this subsection due to the
9 operational characteristics of the roadway.

10 (4) It is a traffic infraction to drive continuously in the left
11 lane of a multilane roadway when it impedes the flow of other traffic.

12 ((+4)) (5) Upon any roadway having four or more lanes for moving
13 traffic and providing for two-way movement of traffic, a vehicle shall
14 not be driven to the left of the center line of the roadway except when
15 authorized by official traffic control devices designating certain
16 lanes to the left side of the center of the roadway for use by traffic
17 not otherwise permitted to use such lanes, or except as permitted under
18 subsection (1)(b) of this section. However, this subsection shall not
19 be construed as prohibiting the crossing of the center line in making
20 a left turn into or from an alley, private road or driveway."

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