

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5827

As of February 25, 1999

Title: An act relating to load covering for vehicles on public highways.

Brief Description: Requiring load covering for vehicles.

Sponsors: Senators Prentice, Fraser, Kohl-Welles and Long.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 3/4/99.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Mary McLaughlin (786-7309)

Background: A truck operating on a public highway with a load of dirt, sand or gravel that is susceptible to being dropped, spilled, leaked or otherwise escaping is required to be covered. The exception is if six inches of freeboard is maintained within the body of the truck. Even though the material may have a "peak in the middle," the material at the sides must be six inches below the top edge of the body. In addition, the carrier is required to sweep off any rocks or other debris from the vehicle's body, fenders, sideboards, tires, etc., prior to proceeding on a public highway.

Summary of Bill: The freeboard exemption is removed and the operator of any vehicle carrying a load of dirt, sand or gravel is required to cover the load.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.