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SENATE BILL 5901

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State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Senator Benton

Read first time 02/09/15. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to headlight use requirements; and amending RCW  
2 46.37.020 and 46.37.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.37.020 and 1977 ex.s. c 355 s 2 are each amended  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Every vehicle upon a highway within this state at any time  
7 from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise (~~and at~~  
8 ~~any other time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable~~  
9 ~~atmospheric conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not~~  
10 ~~clearly discernible at a distance of one thousand feet ahead shall~~)  
11 must display lighted headlights, other lights, and illuminating  
12 devices as hereinafter respectively required for different classes of  
13 vehicles, subject to exceptions with respect to parked vehicles, and  
14 such stop lights, turn signals, and other signaling devices shall be  
15 lighted as prescribed for the use of such devices.

16 (2) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, from thirty  
17 minutes before sunrise to thirty minutes after sunset, every vehicle  
18 operating on a highway within this state must:

19 (a) Use head lamps lit at low beam, if the vehicle was  
20 manufactured before January 1, 2018, and is not equipped with daytime  
21 running head lamps; or

1        (b) Use daytime running head lamps, if the vehicle is equipped  
2 with daytime running head lamps.

3        (3) Head lamps lit at low beam or high beam must be used at any  
4 time when, due to insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric  
5 conditions, persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly  
6 discernible at a distance of one thousand feet ahead.

7        **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.37.040 and 1977 ex.s. c 355 s 4 are each amended  
8 to read as follows:

9        (1) Every motor vehicle shall be equipped with at least two head  
10 lamps with at least one on each side of the front of the motor  
11 vehicle, which head lamps shall comply with the requirements and  
12 limitations set forth in this chapter.

13        (2) Every head lamp upon every motor vehicle shall be located at  
14 a height measured from the center of the head lamp of not more than  
15 fifty-four inches nor less than twenty-four inches to be measured as  
16 set forth in RCW 46.37.030(2).

17        (3) Every motor vehicle offered for sale in Washington,  
18 manufactured after January 1, 2018, must be equipped with daytime  
19 running head lamps.

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