
Transportation Committee

ESB 5937

Brief Description: Clarifying the required color of certain lamps on vehicles.

Sponsors: Senators Lovelett, Nguyen, Fortunato, Das, Billig and Hunt; by request of Washington State Patrol.

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Engrossed Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires all rear commercial motor vehicle lighting devices and reflectors, including stop lamps, to be red, except other rear signal devices which may be red or amber.
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Hearing Date: 3/18/19

Staff: Beth Redfield (786-7140).

Background:

Current state vehicle lighting laws require lighting devices on the rear of any vehicle to display a red color, with exceptions for stop lamps or other signal devices, which may be red, amber, or yellow. Specific requirements allow stop lamps on the rear of a vehicle to display a red or amber light, or any shade of color between red and amber.

Federal motor carrier safety laws allow rear signal devices on commercial motor vehicles to display either a red or amber color and require rear stop lamps to display a red color.

Washington receives over \$6 million annually from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to implement motor carrier safety programs.

Summary of Bill:

For commercial motor vehicles, stop lamps must be red and other rear signal devices must be red or amber.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.