
HOUSE BILL 1072

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Klicker, Sandlin, and Rude

Prefiled 12/22/22. Read first time 01/09/23. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to motor vehicle length limitations; and amending
2 RCW 46.44.030.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.030 and 2020 c 110 s 1 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public
7 highways of this state any vehicle having an overall length, with or
8 without load, in excess of (~~forty~~) 40 feet. This restriction does
9 not apply to (a) a municipal transit vehicle, (b) auto stage, private
10 carrier bus, school bus, travel trailer, or motor home with an
11 overall length not to exceed (~~forty-six~~) 46 feet, (c) an
12 articulated auto stage with an overall length not to exceed (~~sixty-~~
13 ~~one~~) 61 feet, excluding a bike rack up to four feet in length, or
14 (d) an auto recycling carrier up to (~~forty-two~~) 42 feet in length
15 manufactured prior to 2005.

16 (2)(a) It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public
17 highways of this state any combination consisting of a tractor and
18 semitrailer that has a semitrailer length in excess of (~~fifty-~~
19 ~~three~~) 53 feet or a combination consisting of a tractor and two
20 trailers in which the combined length of the trailers exceeds
21 (~~sixty-one~~) 61 feet, with or without load.

1 (b) The restriction under this subsection does not apply to two
2 trailers or semitrailers with a total weight that does not exceed
3 (~~twenty-six thousand~~) 26,000 pounds and when the two trailers or
4 semitrailers do not carry property but constitute inventory property
5 of a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer of such trailers. The total
6 combination under this subsection (2)(b) may not exceed (~~eighty-~~
7 ~~two~~) 82 feet of overall length.

8 (3) It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of
9 this state any combination consisting of a truck and trailer, or log
10 truck and stinger-steered pole trailer, with an overall length, with
11 or without load, in excess of (~~seventy-five~~) 85 feet. "Stinger-
12 steered," as used in this section, means the coupling device is
13 located behind the tread of the tires of the last axle of the towing
14 vehicle.

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

24 (b) Excluded from the calculation of length under this section
25 are certain devices that provide added safety, energy conservation,
26 or are otherwise necessary, and are not designed or used to carry
27 cargo. The length-exclusive devices must be identified in rules
28 adopted by the department of transportation under RCW 46.44.101.

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