

2 HB 1095 - S AMD 208

3 By Senators Kastama, Benton and Haugen

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5 On page 1, after line 18, insert the following:

6 "Sec. 2. RCW 46.44.091 and 1989 c 52 s 1 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this
9 section, no special permit shall be issued for movement on any state
10 highway or route of a state highway within the limits of any city or
11 town where the gross weight, including load, exceeds the following
12 limits:

13 (a) Twenty-two thousand pounds on a single axle or on dual axles
14 with a wheelbase between the first and second axles of less than three
15 feet six inches;

16 (b) Forty-three thousand pounds on dual axles having a wheelbase
17 between the first and second axles of not less than three feet six
18 inches but less than seven feet;

19 (c) On any group of axles or in the case of a vehicle employing two
20 single axles with a wheel base between the first and last axle of not
21 less than seven feet but less than ten feet, a weight in pounds
22 determined by multiplying six thousand five hundred times the distance
23 in feet between the center of the first axle and the center of the last
24 axle of the group;

25 (d) On any group of axles with a wheel base between the first and
26 last axle of not less than ten feet but less than thirty feet, a weight
27 in pounds determined by multiplying two thousand two hundred times the
28 sum of twenty and the distance in feet between the center of the first
29 axle and the center of the last axle of the group;

30 (e) On any group of axles with a wheel base between the first and
31 last axle of thirty feet or greater, a weight in pounds determined by
32 multiplying one thousand six hundred times the sum of forty and the
33 distance in feet between the center of the first axle and the center of
34 the last axle of the group.

35 (2) The total weight of a vehicle or combination of vehicles
36 allowable by special permit under subsection (1) of this section shall

1 be governed by the lesser of the weights obtained by using the total
2 number of axles as a group or any combination of axles as a group.

3 (3) The weight limitations pertaining to single axles may be
4 exceeded to permit the movement of equipment operating upon single
5 pneumatic tires having a rim width of twenty inches or more and a rim
6 diameter of twenty-four inches or more or dual pneumatic tires having
7 a rim width of sixteen inches or more and a rim diameter of twenty-four
8 inches or more and specially designed vehicles manufactured and
9 certified for special permits prior to July 1, 1975.

10 (4) Permits may be issued for weights in excess of the limitations
11 contained in subsection (1) of this section on highways or sections of
12 highways which have been designed and constructed for weights in excess
13 of such limitations, or for any shipment duly certified as necessary by
14 military officials, or by officials of public or private power
15 facilities, or when in the opinion of the department of transportation
16 the movement or action is a necessary movement or action: PROVIDED,
17 That in the judgment of the department of transportation the structures
18 and highway surfaces on the routes involved are capable of sustaining
19 weights in excess of such limitations and it is not reasonable for
20 economic or operational considerations to transport such excess weights
21 by rail or water for any substantial distance of the total mileage
22 applied for.

23 ~~(5) ((Permits may be issued for the operation of fire trucks on the
24 public highways if the maximum gross weight on any single axle does not
25 exceed twenty four thousand pounds and the gross weight on any tandem
26 axle does not exceed forty three thousand pounds.~~

27 ~~(6))~~) Application shall be made in writing on special forms
28 provided by the department of transportation and shall be submitted at
29 least thirty-six hours in advance of the proposed movement. An
30 application for a special permit for a gross weight of any combination
31 of vehicles exceeding two hundred thousand pounds shall be submitted in
32 writing to the department of transportation at least thirty days in
33 advance of the proposed movement.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 46.44 RCW
35 to read as follows:

36 (1) As used in this section, "fire-fighting apparatus" means a
37 vehicle or combination of vehicles, owned by a regularly organized fire
38 suppression agency, designed, maintained, and used exclusively for fire

1 suppression and rescue or for fire prevention activities. These
2 vehicles and associated loads or equipment are necessary to protect the
3 public safety and are considered nondivisible loads. A vehicle or
4 combination of vehicles that is not designed primarily for fire
5 suppression including, but not limited to, a hazardous materials
6 response vehicle, bus, mobile kitchen, mobile sanitation facility, and
7 heavy equipment transport vehicle is not a fire-fighting apparatus for
8 purposes of this section.

9 (2) Fire-fighting apparatus must comply with all applicable federal
10 and state vehicle operating and safety criteria, including rules
11 adopted by agencies within each jurisdiction.

12 (3) All owners and operators of fire-fighting apparatus shall
13 comply with current information, available through the department,
14 regarding the applicable load restrictions of state bridges within the
15 designated fire service area, including any automatic or mutual aid
16 agreement areas.

17 (4) Fire-fighting apparatus operating within a fire district
18 boundary of the owner of the apparatus, including any automatic or
19 mutual aid agreement areas, may operate without a permit if:

20 (a) The weight does not exceed:

21 (i) 600 pounds per inch width of tire;

22 (ii) 24,000 pounds on a single axle;

23 (iii) 43,000 pounds on a tandem axle set;

24 (iv) 67,000 pounds gross vehicle weight, subject to the gross
25 weight limits of RCW 46.44.091(1) (c), (d), and (e);

26 (v) The tire manufacturer's tire load rating.

27 (b) There is no tridem axle set.

28 (c) The dimensions do not exceed:

29 (i) 8 feet, 6 inches wide;

30 (ii) 14 feet high;

31 (iii) 50 feet overall length;

32 (iv) 15 foot front overhang;

33 (v) Rear overhang not exceeding the length of the wheel base.

34 (5) The department may grant permits for fire fighting apparatus
35 that exceed the weight limits in subsection (4) of this section only if
36 they were put into operation in this state before July 1, 2001. The
37 department shall issue the permit on an annual basis for the apparatus
38 to operate within the designated fire service area, including mutual
39 benefit agreement areas, subject to the applicable load restrictions of

1 state bridges referred to in subsection (3) of this section and any
2 other limitations stipulated on the permit. Before issuing a permit,
3 the department will compare the apparatus to be permitted with the
4 bridge load ratings for structures on state highways within the
5 operating area. The permit will denote any structures where access by
6 the apparatus is either based on special operating instructions or is
7 denied."

8 Renumber the section following consecutively.

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12 In line 2 of the title, after "46.44.090" insert "and 46.44.091;
13 adding a new section to chapter 46.44 RCW;"

EFFECT: Fire fighting apparatus that are over legal size and
weight put into operation before July 1, 2001, may receive a special
permit for use issued by the department of transportation.

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