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ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1118

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Representatives R. Fisher, R. Meyers, Schmidt and Prince.

Read first time January 21, 1991.      Referred to Committee on  
Transportation.

1            AN ACT Relating to maximum lengths of vehicles; and amending RCW  
2 46.44.030.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.030 and 1990 c 28 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways  
7 of this state any vehicle (~~other than a municipal transit vehicle~~)  
8 having an overall length, with or without load, in excess of forty  
9 feet(~~(: PROVIDED, That an auto stage or school bus shall not exceed an~~  
10 ~~overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, of forty feet:~~  
11 ~~PROVIDED FURTHER, That the route of any auto stage in excess of thirty-~~  
12 ~~five feet or school bus in excess of thirty-six feet six inches upon or~~  
13 ~~across the public highways shall be limited as determined by the~~  
14 ~~department of transportation for state highways, or by the local~~

1 ~~legislative authority for other public roads~~). This restriction does  
2 not apply to (1) a municipal transit vehicle or (2) an articulated auto  
3 stage with an overall length not to exceed sixty-one feet.

4 It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of this  
5 state any combination of vehicles that contains a vehicle in excess of  
6 forty-eight feet, with or without load.

7 It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways  
8 of this state any combination consisting of a tractor and semitrailer  
9 that has a semitrailer length in excess of forty-eight feet or a  
10 combination consisting of a tractor and two trailers in which the  
11 combined length of the trailers exceeds sixty feet, with or without  
12 load.

13 It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of this  
14 state any combination consisting of a truck and trailer with an overall  
15 length, with or without load, in excess of seventy-five feet. However,  
16 a combination of vehicles transporting automobiles or boats may have a  
17 front overhang of three feet and a rear overhang of four feet beyond  
18 this allowed length.

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

27 The length limitations described in this section are exclusive of  
28 safety and energy conservation devices, such as mud flaps and splash  
29 and spray suppressant devices, refrigeration units or air compressors,  
30 and other devices that the department determines to be necessary for

1 safe and efficient operation of commercial vehicles. No device  
2 excluded under this paragraph from the limitations of this section may  
3 have, by its design or use, the capability to carry cargo.