
HOUSE BILL 1272

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives R. Fisher, Schmidt, R. Meyers, Brown, Jones, Horn and Wood; by request of Department of Transportation

Read first time 01/20/93. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to maximum gross weight tire factors; and amending
2 RCW 46.44.042.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.042 and 1985 c 351 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Subject to the maximum gross weights specified in RCW 46.44.041, it
7 is unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways with a
8 gross weight, including load, upon any tire concentrated upon the
9 surface of the highway in excess of six hundred pounds per inch width
10 of such tire. Other than the nonliftable steering axle on the power
11 unit or tiller axle on fire fighting apparatus, an axle manufactured
12 after July 31, 1993, carrying more than ten thousand pounds gross
13 weight must be equipped with four tires. Effective January 1, 1997, an
14 axle, excluding the nonliftable steering axle on the power unit or
15 tiller axle on fire fighting apparatus, carrying more than ten thousand
16 pounds gross weight must have four tires, regardless of date of
17 manufacture. Instead of the four tires per axle requirements of this
18 section: (1) An axle may be equipped with two tires limited to five
19 hundred pounds per inch width of tire; or (2) in the case of a ready-

1 mix concrete transit truck, the rear booster trailing axle may be
2 equipped with two tires limited to six hundred pounds per inch width of
3 tire. This section does not apply to oversize and overweight permits
4 issued under RCW 46.44.090. For the purpose of this section, the width
5 of tire in case of solid rubber or hollow center cushion tires, so long
6 as the use thereof may be permitted by the law, shall be measured
7 between the flanges of the rim. For the purpose of this section, the
8 width of tires in case of pneumatic tires shall be the maximum overall
9 normal inflated width as stipulated by the manufacturer when inflated
10 to the pressure specified and without load thereon.

11 The department of transportation, under rules adopted by the
12 transportation commission with respect to state highways, and a local
13 authority, with respect to a public highway under its jurisdiction, may
14 extend the weight table in RCW 46.44.041 to one hundred fifteen
15 thousand pounds. However, the extension must be in compliance with
16 federal law, and vehicles operating under the extension must be in full
17 compliance with the 1997 axle and tire requirements under this section.

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