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SENATE BILL 5428

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State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1993 Regular Session

By Senator Loveland; by request of Department of Transportation

Read first time 01/27/93. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            AN ACT Relating to lawful vehicle lengths; 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 1991 c 113 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 having an overall length, with or without  
8 load, in excess of forty feet. This restriction does not apply to (1)  
9 a (~~municipal transit vehicle~~) bus with an overall length not to  
10 exceed forty-five feet or (2) an articulated auto stage with an overall  
11 length not to exceed sixty-one feet.

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

15            It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways  
16 of this state any combination consisting of a tractor and semitrailer  
17 that has a semitrailer length in excess of forty-eight feet or a  
18 combination consisting of a tractor and two trailers in which the

1 combined length of the trailers exceeds sixtyone feet, with or without  
2 load.

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

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

17 The length limitations described in this section are exclusive of  
18 safety and energy conservation devices, such as mud flaps and splash  
19 and spray suppressant devices, refrigeration units or air compressors,  
20 and other devices that the department determines to be necessary for  
21 safe and efficient operation of commercial vehicles. No device  
22 excluded under this paragraph from the limitations of this section may  
23 have, by its design or use, the capability to carry cargo.

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