
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5099

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Sellar, Rasmussen, Benton, Oke, Gardner, Swecker, Goings, Horn, Eide, Patterson, Morton, Prentice and Costa)

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to the powers and duties of commercial vehicle
2 enforcement officers; adding new sections to chapter 43.43 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that the
6 following factors demonstrate the need for changes in the commercial
7 vehicle enforcement program:

8 (1) The presence of commercial motor vehicles on Washington roads
9 and highways is increasing substantially per year;

10 (2) Appropriately trained commercial vehicle enforcement officers
11 are essential to ensuring the safety of the traveling public;

12 (3) Implementation of the Commercial Vehicle Information Systems
13 and Networks program and weigh-in-motion technology will increase
14 program effectiveness and the need for new processes to be used in
15 commercial vehicle enforcement; and

16 (4) The Washington state economy is becoming increasingly dependent
17 on the safe and efficient transportation of freight on state highways.

1 The legislature finds that enhanced responsibility and training for
2 commercial vehicle enforcement officers will contribute to the
3 efficient and safe delivery of freight in Washington.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.43 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The commercial vehicle enforcement program must be fully staffed
7 using the commercial vehicle enforcement officer and commercial vehicle
8 officer positions, including captains and lieutenants in supervisory
9 positions, and staffing levels as enacted in the transportation budget.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.43 RCW
11 to read as follows:

12 The powers and duties of the commercial vehicle enforcement
13 officers are to enforce state and federal laws and regulations relating
14 to motor transport carriers and other related statutes and regulations
15 as directed by law. Commercial vehicle enforcement officers have the
16 same traffic infraction enforcement authority as commissioned
17 Washington state patrol officers as it relates to situations involving
18 commercial vehicles. Traffic infraction enforcement authority does not
19 include pursuit of vehicles. The patrol shall provide the training
20 necessary to ensure the safety and success of the officers in these
21 duties.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.43 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 Commercial vehicle enforcement officers may provide medical
25 assistance and direct traffic in situations where the officers can be
26 of assistance. The patrol shall continue to provide training to
27 commercial vehicle enforcement officers in first aid and traffic
28 control.

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