

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5986

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Highways & Transportation, March 6, 2003

**Title:** An act relating to vehicles driven side by side in a single lane.

**Brief Description:** Allowing narrow vehicles to drive side by side in one lane.

**Sponsors:** Senator West.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Highways & Transportation: 3/6/03 [DPS, DNP].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5986 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Horn, Chair; Swecker, Vice Chair; Esser, Haugen, Kastama, Oke and Spanel.

**Minority Report:** Do not pass.

Signed by Senators Benton, Vice Chair; and Jacobsen.

**Staff:** Janice Baumgardt (786-7319)

**Background:** Current law is silent on whether vehicles may travel two or more abreast in a single lane. However, the operating motorcycles statute does permit motorcycles to travel up to two abreast in a single lane.

**Summary of Substitute Bill:** Ultranarrow vehicle is defined as a vehicle with a maximum width of 42 inches from mirror to mirror. The operating motorcycles statute is amended to include ultranarrow vehicles being permitted to travel up to two abreast in a single lane and prohibited from lane splitting and passing in the same lane.

**Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill:** The original bill was not considered.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** This bill will promote use of ultranarrow vehicles which will help in reducing congestion, pollution, and our reliance on oil.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** PRO: Rick Woodbury, Commuter Cars Corporation; Grant Smith, Commuter Cars Corporation.