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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6001**

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**State of Washington**

**58th Legislature**

**2003 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Highways & Transportation (originally sponsored by Senator Benton)

READ FIRST TIME 03/10/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to lawful vehicle combinations; and amending RCW  
2 46.44.037.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.037 and 1991 c 143 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 46.44.036 and subject to such  
7 rules and regulations governing their operation as may be adopted by  
8 the state department of transportation, operation of the following  
9 combinations is lawful:

10 (1) A combination consisting of a truck tractor, a semitrailer, and  
11 another semitrailer or a full trailer. In this combination a converter  
12 gear used to convert a semitrailer into a full trailer shall be  
13 considered to be a part of the full trailer and not a separate vehicle.  
14 A converter gear being pulled without load and not used to convert a  
15 semitrailer into a full trailer may be substituted in lieu of a full  
16 trailer or a semitrailer in any lawful combination;

17 (2) A combination not exceeding seventy-five feet in overall length  
18 consisting of four trucks or truck tractors used in driveway service

1 where three of the vehicles are towed by the fourth in triple  
2 saddlemount position;

3 (3) A combination consisting of a truck tractor carrying a freight  
4 compartment no longer than eight feet, a semitrailer, and another  
5 semitrailer or full trailer that meets the legal length requirement for  
6 a truck and trailer combination set forth in RCW 46.44.030;

7 (4) A combination consisting of a motor vehicle weighing more than  
8 four thousand pounds unladen, a travel trailer, and a trailer designed  
9 for hauling a boat, snowmobiles, or nonhighway vehicles as defined in  
10 RCW 46.09.020. The vehicles in combination must not exceed sixty-five  
11 feet in length and must have a braking capacity that conforms to RCW  
12 46.37.351 and progressive braking. The trailers must have connecting  
13 devices designed and attached in such a manner to be capable of towing  
14 the gross weight of the trailers in tow. A person operating this  
15 combination must have an endorsement issued by the department, under  
16 rules adopted by the department, permitting operation of this  
17 combination. The department shall permit testing of applicants for  
18 this endorsement by a third party testing program in accordance with  
19 RCW 46.25.060. The department shall charge a fee of twenty-five  
20 dollars for the endorsement.

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