
SENATE BILL 6410

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Senators Poulsen, Prentice and Jacobsen

Read first time 01/20/2004. Referred to Committee on Highways & Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to covered loads; and amending RCW 46.61.655.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.61.655 and 1990 c 250 s 56 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) No vehicle shall be driven or moved on any public highway
6 unless such vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent any of
7 its load from dropping, sifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping
8 therefrom, except that sand may be dropped for the purpose of securing
9 traction. Any person operating a vehicle from which any glass or
10 objects have fallen or escaped, which would constitute an obstruction
11 or injure a vehicle or otherwise endanger travel upon such public
12 highway shall immediately cause the public highway to be cleaned of all
13 such glass or objects and shall pay any costs therefor.

14 (2) No person may operate on any public highway any vehicle with
15 any load unless the load and such covering as required thereon by
16 subsection (3) of this section is securely fastened to prevent the
17 covering or load from becoming loose, detached, or in any manner a
18 hazard to other users of the highway.

1 (3) Any vehicle operating on a paved public highway with a load of
2 dirt, sand, or gravel susceptible to being dropped, spilled, leaked, or
3 otherwise escaping therefrom shall be covered so as to prevent
4 spillage. (~~Covering of such loads is not required if six inches of~~
5 ~~freeboard is maintained within the bed.~~)

6 (4) Any vehicle with deposits of mud, rocks, or other debris on the
7 vehicle's body, fenders, frame, undercarriage, wheels, or tires shall
8 be cleaned of such material before the operation of the vehicle on a
9 paved public highway.

10 (5) The state patrol may make necessary rules to carry into effect
11 the provisions of this section, applying such provisions to specific
12 conditions and loads and prescribing means, methods, and practices to
13 effectuate such provisions.

14 (6) Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a public
15 maintenance vehicle from dropping sand on a highway to enhance
16 traction, or sprinkling water or other substances to clean or maintain
17 a highway.

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