

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## HB 2923

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
Agriculture & Rural Economic Development, February 21, 2008

**Title:** An act relating to providing an alternative method for weight tickets for transporting hay or straw.

**Brief Description:** Providing an alternative method for weight tickets for transporting hay or straw.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Hinkle, Warnick, Blake, Chandler, Hailey, Schmick, Kretz, Williams, Eickmeyer, Condotta, McCune, VanDeWege and Newhouse.

**Brief History:** Passed House: 2/12/08, 97-0.

**Committee Activity:** Agriculture & Rural Economic Development: 2/21/08 [DP].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Rasmussen, Chair; Hatfield, Vice Chair; Schoesler, Ranking Minority Member; Morton and Shin.

**Staff:** Bob Lee (786-7404)

**Background:** Every dealer and commission merchant dealing in hay or straw is required to obtain a certified vehicle tare weight and a certified vehicle gross weight for each load hauled and must furnish the consignor with a copy of the certified weight ticket within 72 hours after taking delivery. It is a statutory violation for any licensee to transport hay or straw purchased by weight without the licensee having obtained a certified weight ticket from the first licensed public weighmaster encountered on the ordinary route to the destination for unloading the hay or straw. A dealer is any person who is not a cash buyer and who solicits for the purposes of reselling. A commission merchant is any person who receives agricultural purchases on consignment for resale. A consignor is any producer who sells, ships, or delivers agricultural products to any dealer or commission agent. A licensee is any person or business licensed under statute, among other things, as a dealer or commission agent.

**Summary of Bill:** If the dealer or commission merchant and a consignor agree in advance and in writing, a certified vehicle tare weight and certified vehicle gross weight may be obtained from a hay or straw processing facility, using a scale approved by the Director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

**Appropriation:** None.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

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

**Staff Summary of Public Testimony:** PRO: The bill codifies what the practice has been over the last 25 years.

**Persons Testifying:** PRO: Representative Hinkle, prime sponsor.