
SENATE BILL 5824

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senators Tom, Weinstein, Kauffman, Marr, Murray, Eide and Berkey

Read first time 02/02/2007. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to recovery of costs of studded tire damage to
2 highways; amending RCW 46.37.420; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that substantial
5 pavement damage is caused by studded tire use. Wisconsin and Minnesota
6 are among the states that have prohibited the use of studded tires for
7 this reason. Therefore, to offset pavement maintenance and
8 preservation costs, an annual fee is established to recognize and
9 recover the cost of studded tire damage to the roadways.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.37.420 and 1999 c 208 s 1 are each amended to read
11 as follows:

12 (1) It is unlawful to operate a vehicle upon the public highways of
13 this state unless it is completely equipped with pneumatic rubber tires
14 except vehicles equipped with temporary-use spare tires that meet
15 federal standards that are installed and used in accordance with the
16 manufacturer's instructions.

17 (2) No tire on a vehicle moved on a highway may have on its
18 periphery any block, flange, cleat, or spike or any other protuberance

1 of any material other than rubber which projects beyond the tread of
2 the traction surface of the tire, except that it is permissible to use
3 farm machinery equipped with pneumatic tires or solid rubber tracks
4 having protuberances that will not injure the highway, and except also
5 that it is permissible to use tire chains or metal studs imbedded
6 within the tire of reasonable proportions and of a type conforming to
7 rules adopted by the state patrol, upon any vehicle when required for
8 safety because of snow, ice, or other conditions tending to cause a
9 vehicle to skid. It is unlawful to use metal studs imbedded within the
10 tire between April 1st and November 1st, or at any time without a
11 permit. The state department of transportation may, from time to time,
12 determine additional periods in which the use of tires with metal studs
13 imbedded therein is lawful.

14 (3) It is a traffic infraction to use metal studs imbedded within
15 the tire at any time without a permit. Upon the payment of an
16 additional fee of one hundred dollars at the time of initial vehicle
17 licensing or vehicle license renewal, the department of licensing shall
18 issue a permit for the use of studded tires on a particular vehicle for
19 the following year. In addition to any applicable penalties, a person
20 who violates this subsection must pay the one hundred-dollar permit
21 fee.

22 (4) The state department of transportation and local authorities in
23 their respective jurisdictions may issue special permits authorizing
24 the operation upon a highway of traction engines or tractors having
25 movable tracks with transverse corrugations upon the periphery of the
26 movable tracks or farm tractors or other farm machinery, the operation
27 of which upon a highway would otherwise be prohibited under this
28 section.

29 ((+4)) (5) Tires with metal studs imbedded therein may be used
30 between November 1st and April 1st upon school buses and fire
31 department vehicles, any law or regulation to the contrary
32 notwithstanding.

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