HOUSE BILL 2611

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Dye, Blake, Schmick, Kretz, McCabe, and Condotta Read first time 01/15/16. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

- AN ACT Relating to vehicle weight limits for the movement of agricultural commodities; and amending RCW 46.44.041, 46.44.091, and
- 3 36.75.270.

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- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.041 and 1997 c 198 s 1 are each amended to 6 read as follows:
 - (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, no vehicle or combination of vehicles shall operate upon the public highways of this state with a gross load on any single axle in excess of twenty thousand pounds, or upon any group of axles in excess of that set forth in the following table, except that two consecutive sets of tandem axles may carry a gross load of thirty-four thousand pounds each, if the overall distance between the first and last axles of such consecutive sets of tandem axles is thirty-six feet or more.

15 Maximum load in pounds carried

on any group of 2 or more

17 consecutive axles

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1										
2										
3	Γ	Distance in feet								
4	b	etween the								
5	e	xtremes of any								
6	g	roup of 2 or								
7	n	nore								
8	c	onsecutive	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	a	xles	axles	axles						
10										
11		4	34,000							
12		5	34,000							
13		6	34,000							
14		7	34,000							
15		8 & less	34,000	34,000						
16		more than 8	38,000	42,000						
17		9	39,000	42,500						
18		10	40,000	43,500						
19		11		44,000						
20		12		45,000	50,000					
21		13		45,500	50,500					
22		14		46,500	51,500					
23		15		47,000	52,000					
24		16		48,000	52,500	58,000				
25		17		48,500	53,500	58,500				
26		18		49,500	54,000	59,000				
27		19		50,000	54,500	60,000				
28		20		51,000	55,500	60,500	66,000			
29		21		51,500	56,000	61,000	66,500			
30		22		52,500	56,500	61,500	67,000			
31		23		53,000	57,500	62,500	68,000			
32		24		54,000	58,000	63,000	68,500	74,000		
33		25		54,500	58,500	63,500	69,000	74,500		
34		26		55,500	59,500	64,000	69,500	75,000		
35		27		56,000	60,000	65,000	70,000	75,500		
36		28		57,000	60,500	65,500	71,000	76,500	82,000	

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1	29	57,500	61,500	66,000	71,500	77,000	82,500	
2	30	58,500	62,000	66,500	72,000	77,500	83,000	
3	31	59,000	62,500	67,500	72,500	78,000	83,500	
4	32	60,000	63,500	68,000	73,000	78,500	84,500	90,000
5	33		64,000	68,500	74,000	79,000	85,000	90,500
6	34		64,500	69,000	74,500	80,000	85,500	91,000
7	35		65,500	70,000	75,000	80,500	86,000	91,500
8	36		66,000	70,500	75,500	81,000	86,500	92,000
9	37		66,500	71,000	76,000	81,500	87,000	93,000
10	38		67,500	71,500	77,000	82,000	87,500	93,500
11	39		68,000	72,500	77,500	82,500	88,500	94,000
12	40		68,500	73,000	78,000	83,500	89,000	94,500
13	41		69,500	73,500	78,500	84,000	89,500	95,000
14	42		70,000	74,000	79,000	84,500	90,000	95,500
15	43		70,500	75,000	80,000	85,000	90,500	96,000
16	44		71,500	75,500	80,500	85,500	91,000	96,500
17	45		72,000	76,000	81,000	86,000	91,500	97,500
18	46		72,500	76,500	81,500	87,000	92,500	98,000
19	47		73,500	77,500	82,000	87,500	93,000	98,500
20	48		74,000	78,000	83,000	88,000	93,500	99,000
21	49		74,500	78,500	83,500	88,500	94,000	99,500
22	50		75,500	79,000	84,000	89,000	94,500	100,000
23	51		76,000	80,000	84,500	89,500	95,000	100,500
24	52		76,500	80,500	85,000	90,500	95,500	101,000
25	53		77,500	81,000	86,000	91,000	96,500	102,000
26	54		78,000	81,500	86,500	91,500	97,000	102,500
27	55		78,500	82,500	87,000	92,000	97,500	103,000
28	56		79,500	83,000	87,500	92,500	98,000	103,500
29	57		80,000	83,500	88,000	93,000	98,500	104,000
30	58			84,000	89,000	94,000	99,000	104,500
31	59			85,000	89,500	94,500	99,500	105,500
32	60			85,500	90,000	95,000	100,500	105,500
33	61			86,000	90,500	95,500	101,000	105,500
34	62			86,500	91,000	96,000	101,500	105,500
35	63			87,500	92,000	96,500	102,000	105,500
36	64			88,000	92,500	97,500	102,500	105,500

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1	65	88,500	93,000	98,000 103,00	0 105,500
2	66	89,000	93,500	98,500 103,50	0 105,500
3	67	90,000	94,000	99,000 104,50	0 105,500
4	68	90,500	95,000	99,500 105,00	0 105,500
5	69	91,000	95,500	100,000 105,50	0 105,500
6	70	91,500	96,000	101,000 105,50	0 105,500
7	71	92,500	96,500	101,500 105,50	0 105,500
8	72	93,000	97,000	102,000 105,50	0 105,500
9	73	93,500	98,000	102,500 105,50	0 105,500
10	74	94,000	98,500	103,000 105,50	0 105,500
11	75	95,000	99,000	103,500 105,50	0 105,500
12	76	95,500	99,500	104,500 105,50	0 105,500
13	77	96,000	100,000	105,000 105,50	0 105,500
14	78	96,500	101,000	105,500 105,50	0 105,500
15	79	97,500	101,500	105,500 105,50	0 105,500
16	80	98,000	102,000	105,500 105,50	0 105,500
17	81	98,500	102,500	105,500 105,50	0 105,500
18	82	99,000	103,000	105,500 105,50	0 105,500
19	83	100,000	104,000	105,500 105,50	0 105,500
20	84		104,500	105,500 105,50	0 105,500
21	85		105,000	105,500 105,50	0 105,500
22	86 or more		105,500	105,500 105,50	0 105,500

When inches are involved: Under six inches take lower, six inches or over take higher. The maximum load on any axle in any group of axles shall not exceed the single axle or tandem axle allowance as set forth in the table above.

The maximum axle and gross weights specified in this section are subject to the braking requirements set up for the service brakes upon any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles as provided by law.

Loads of not more than eighty thousand pounds which may be legally hauled in the state bordering this state which also has a sales tax, are legal in this state when moving to a port district within four miles of the bordering state except on the interstate system. This provision does not allow the operation of a vehicle combination consisting of a truck tractor and three trailers.

Notwithstanding anything contained herein, a vehicle or combination of vehicles in operation on January 4, 1975, may operate

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- upon the public highways of this state, including the interstate system within the meaning of section 127 of Title 23, United States Code, with an overall gross weight upon a group of two consecutive sets of dual axles which was lawful in this state under the laws, regulations, and procedures in effect in this state on January 4, 1975.
- 7 (2) A vehicle or combination of vehicles may exceed the weight limits established under subsection (1) of this section by up to two 8 thousand pounds when operating upon the public highways of this state 9 that are not part of the federal-aid interstate system and carrying 10 an agricultural commodity, as defined in RCW 17.21.020. The exemption 11 provided <u>in this subsection (2) does not allow a vehicle or</u> 12 combination of vehicles to exceed any posted weight limit for a 13 14 bridge.
- 15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.44.091 and 2001 c 262 s 2 are each amended to 16 read as follows:

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- (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, no special permit shall be issued for movement on any state highway or route of a state highway within the limits of any city or town where the gross weight, including load, exceeds the following limits:
- 22 (a) Twenty-two thousand pounds on a single axle or on dual axles 23 with a wheelbase between the first and second axles of less than 24 three feet six inches;
 - (b) Forty-three thousand pounds on dual axles having a wheelbase between the first and second axles of not less than three feet six inches but less than seven feet;
 - (c) On any group of axles or in the case of a vehicle employing two single axles with a wheel base between the first and last axle of not less than seven feet but less than ten feet, a weight in pounds determined by multiplying six thousand five hundred times the distance in feet between the center of the first axle and the center of the last axle of the group;
 - (d) On any group of axles with a wheel base between the first and last axle of not less than ten feet but less than thirty feet, a weight in pounds determined by multiplying two thousand two hundred times the sum of twenty and the distance in feet between the center of the first axle and the center of the last axle of the group;

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(e) On any group of axles with a wheel base between the first and last axle of thirty feet or greater, a weight in pounds determined by multiplying one thousand six hundred times the sum of forty and the distance in feet between the center of the first axle and the center of the last axle of the group.

- (2) The total weight of a vehicle or combination of vehicles allowable by special permit under subsection (1) of this section shall be governed by the lesser of the weights obtained by using the total number of axles as a group or any combination of axles as a group.
- (3) The weight limitations pertaining to single axles may be exceeded to permit the movement of equipment operating upon single pneumatic tires having a rim width of twenty inches or more and a rim diameter of twenty-four inches or more or dual pneumatic tires having a rim width of sixteen inches or more and a rim diameter of twenty-four inches or more and specially designed vehicles manufactured and certified for special permits prior to July 1, 1975.
- (4) Permits may be issued for weights in excess of the limitations contained in subsection (1) of this section on highways or sections of highways which have been designed and constructed for weights in excess of such limitations, or for any shipment duly certified as necessary by military officials, or by officials of public or private power facilities, or when in the opinion of the department of transportation the movement or action is a necessary movement or action: PROVIDED, That in the judgment of the department of transportation the structures and highway surfaces on the routes involved are capable of sustaining weights in excess of such limitations and it is not reasonable for economic or operational considerations to transport such excess weights by rail or water for any substantial distance of the total mileage applied for.
- (5) Application shall be made in writing on special forms provided by the department of transportation and shall be submitted at least thirty-six hours in advance of the proposed movement. An application for a special permit for a gross weight of any combination of vehicles exceeding two hundred thousand pounds shall be submitted in writing to the department of transportation at least thirty days in advance of the proposed movement.
- 38 (6) A special permit is not required for a vehicle or combination
 39 of vehicles meeting the exemption under RCW 46.44.041(2).

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Sec. 3. RCW 36.75.270 and 1963 c 4 s 36.75.270 are each amended to read as follows:

 (1) The board of county commissioners of each county may by resolution limit or prohibit classes or types of vehicles on any county road or bridge and may limit the weight of vehicles which may travel thereon. Any such resolution shall be effective for a definite period of time which shall be stated in the resolution. If such resolution is published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and if signs indicating such closure or limitation of traffic have been posted on such road or bridge, any person violating such resolution shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

(2) However, a vehicle or combination of vehicles may exceed the weight limits established by a board of county commissioners under subsection (1) of this section by up to two thousand pounds when operating upon the public highways of the state and are carrying an agricultural commodity, as defined in RCW 17.21.020. The exemption provided in this subsection (2) does not allow a vehicle or combination of vehicles to exceed any posted weight limit for a bridge.

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