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 36.75.270.

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

Sec. 1. RCW 46.44.041 and 1997 c 198 s 1 are each amended to 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.

| Distance in feet |
| :--- |
| between the |
| extremes of any |
| group of 2 or |
| more |
|  |
| consecutive | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| axles | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |



| 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 |


| 1 | 65 | 88,500 | 93,000 | 98,000 103,000 | 105,500 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | 66 | 89,000 | 93,500 | 98,500 103,500 | 105,500 |
| 3 | 67 | 90,000 | 94,000 | 99,000 104,500 | 105,500 |
| 4 | 68 | 90,500 | 95,000 | 99,500 105,000 | 105,500 |
| 5 | 69 | 91,000 | 95,500 | 100,000 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 6 | 70 | 91,500 | 96,000 | 101,000 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 7 | 71 | 92,500 | 96,500 | 101,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 8 | 72 | 93,000 | 97,000 | 102,000 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 9 | 73 | 93,500 | 98,000 | 102,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 10 | 74 | 94,000 | 98,500 | 103,000 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 11 | 75 | 95,000 | 99,000 | 103,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 12 | 76 | 95,500 | 99,500 | 104,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 13 | 77 | 96,000 | 100,000 | 105,000 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 14 | 78 | 96,500 | 101,000 | 105,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 15 | 79 | 97,500 | 101,500 | 105,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 16 | 80 | 98,000 | 102,000 | 105,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 17 | 81 | 98,500 | 102,500 | 105,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 18 | 82 | 99,000 | 103,000 | 105,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 19 | 83 | 100,000 | 104,000 | 105,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 20 | 84 |  | 104,500 | 105,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 21 | 85 |  | 105,000 | 105,500 105,500 | 105,500 |
| 22 | 86 or more |  | 105,500 | 105,500 105,500 | 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.
(2) A vehicle or combination of vehicles may exceed the weight limits established under subsection (1) of this section by up to two thousand pounds when operating upon the public highways of this state that are not part of the federal-aid interstate system and 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.

Sec. 2. RCW 46.44.091 and 2001 c 262 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:
(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:
(a) Twenty-two thousand pounds on a single axle or on dual axles with a wheelbase between the first and second axles of less than 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;
(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 twentyfour 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.
(6) A special permit is not required for a vehicle or combination of vehicles meeting the exemption under RCW 46.44.041(2).

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.

## END

