

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1149**

Chapter 76, Laws of 2017

65th Legislature  
2017 Regular Session

MAXIMUM VEHICLE LENGTH--TRANSIT VEHICLE BIKE RACKS

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/23/2017

Passed by the House February 27, 2017  
Yeas 91 Nays 6

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 5, 2017  
Yeas 47 Nays 0

CYRUS HABIB

**President of the Senate**

Approved April 20, 2017 10:38 AM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1149** as passed by House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

April 20, 2017

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1149**

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Passed Legislature - 2017 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      65th Legislature                      2017 Regular Session**

**By** House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Chapman, Clibborn, Orcutt, and Fey)

READ FIRST TIME 02/03/17.

1            AN ACT Relating to exemptions from certain maximum vehicle length  
2 limitations; and amending RCW 46.44.034 and 46.44.030.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.034 and 1997 c 191 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6            (1) The load, or any portion of any vehicle, operated alone upon  
7 the public highway of this state, or the load, or any portion of the  
8 front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not extend more  
9 than three feet beyond the front wheels of such vehicle, or the front  
10 bumper, if equipped with front bumper. This subsection does not apply  
11 to a (a) front-loading garbage truck or recycling truck while on  
12 route and actually engaged in the collection of solid waste or  
13 recyclables at speeds of twenty miles per hour or less or (b) public  
14 transit vehicle equipped with a bike rack up to four feet in length.

15            (2) No vehicle shall be operated upon the public highways with  
16 any part of the permanent structure or load extending in excess of  
17 fifteen feet beyond the center of the last axle of such vehicle. This  
18 subsection does not apply to "specialized equipment" designated under  
19 49 U.S.C. Sec. 2311 that is operated on the interstate highway  
20 system, those designated portions of the federal-aid primary system,

1 and routes constituting reasonable access from such highways to  
2 terminals and facilities for food, fuel, repairs, and rest.

3 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.44.030 and 2012 c 79 s 1 are each amended to read  
4 as follows:

5 It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways  
6 of this state any vehicle having an overall length, with or without  
7 load, in excess of forty feet. This restriction does not apply to (1)  
8 a municipal transit vehicle, (2) auto stage, private carrier bus,  
9 school bus, or motor home with an overall length not to exceed forty-  
10 six feet, (3) an articulated auto stage with an overall length not to  
11 exceed sixty-one feet, excluding a bike rack up to four feet in  
12 length, or (4) an auto recycling carrier up to forty-two feet in  
13 length manufactured prior to 2005.

14 It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways  
15 of this state any combination consisting of a tractor and semitrailer  
16 that has a semitrailer length in excess of fifty-three feet or a  
17 combination consisting of a tractor and two trailers in which the  
18 combined length of the trailers exceeds sixty-one feet, with or  
19 without load.

20 It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of this  
21 state any combination consisting of a truck and trailer, or log truck  
22 and stinger-steered pole trailer, with an overall length, with or  
23 without load, in excess of seventy-five feet. "Stinger-steered," as  
24 used in this section, means the coupling device is located behind the  
25 tread of the tires of the last axle of the towing vehicle.

26 These length limitations do not apply to vehicles transporting  
27 poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a structural nature that  
28 cannot be dismembered and operated by a public utility when required  
29 for emergency repair of public service facilities or properties, but  
30 in respect to night transportation every such vehicle and load  
31 thereon shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps  
32 on both sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any  
33 projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of the load.

34 Excluded from the calculation of length are certain devices that  
35 provide added safety, energy conservation, or are otherwise  
36 necessary, and are not designed or used to carry cargo. The length-  
37 exclusive devices must be identified in rules adopted by the  
38 department of transportation under RCW 46.44.101.

Passed by the House February 27, 2017.  
Passed by the Senate April 5, 2017.  
Approved by the Governor April 20, 2017.  
Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 20, 2017.

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