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HOUSE BILL 1898

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State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Klicker, Dent, Schmidt, Dye, Orcutt, Mendoza, Walen, Rude, and Volz

Read first time 02/07/25. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to truck and trailer length limitations; and  
2 amending RCW 46.44.030.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.030 and 2020 c 110 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1) It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public  
7 highways of this state any vehicle having an overall length, with or  
8 without load, in excess of (~~forty~~) 40 feet. This restriction does  
9 not apply to (a) a municipal transit vehicle, (b) auto stage, private  
10 carrier bus, school bus, travel trailer, or motor home with an  
11 overall length not to exceed (~~forty-six~~) 46 feet, (c) an  
12 articulated auto stage with an overall length not to exceed (~~sixty-~~  
13 ~~one~~) 61 feet, excluding a bike rack up to four feet in length, or  
14 (d) an auto recycling carrier up to (~~forty-two~~) 42 feet in length  
15 manufactured prior to 2005.

16 (2)(a) It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public  
17 highways of this state any combination consisting of a tractor and  
18 semitrailer that has a semitrailer length in excess of (~~fifty-~~  
19 ~~three~~) 53 feet or a combination consisting of a tractor and two  
20 trailers in which the combined length of the trailers exceeds  
21 (~~sixty-one~~) 61 feet, with or without load.

1 (b) The restriction under this subsection does not apply to two  
2 trailers or semitrailers with a total weight that does not exceed  
3 (~~twenty-six thousand~~) 26,000 pounds and when the two trailers or  
4 semitrailers do not carry property but constitute inventory property  
5 of a manufacturer, distributor, or dealer of such trailers. The total  
6 combination under this subsection (2)(b) may not exceed (~~eighty-~~  
7 ~~two~~) 82 feet of overall length.

8 (3)(a) It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways  
9 of this state any combination consisting of a truck and trailer, or  
10 log truck and stinger-steered pole trailer, with an overall length,  
11 with or without load, in excess of (~~seventy-five~~) 75 feet, except  
12 as authorized in (b) of this subsection.

13 (b) A truck and flatbed trailer with three axels may have a  
14 length of up to and including 85 feet if it is empty or moving  
15 agricultural products as defined in RCW 82.04.213.

16 (c) "Stinger-steered," as used in this section, means the  
17 coupling device is located behind the tread of the tires of the last  
18 axle of the towing vehicle.

19 (4)(a) The length limitations under this section do not apply to  
20 vehicles transporting poles, pipe, machinery, or other objects of a  
21 structural nature that cannot be dismembered and operated by a public  
22 utility when required for emergency repair of public service  
23 facilities or properties, but in respect to night transportation  
24 every such vehicle and load thereon shall be equipped with a  
25 sufficient number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps  
26 upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly mark the  
27 dimensions of the load.

28 (b) Excluded from the calculation of length under this section  
29 are certain devices that provide added safety, energy conservation,  
30 or are otherwise necessary, and are not designed or used to carry  
31 cargo. The length-exclusive devices must be identified in rules  
32 adopted by the department of transportation under RCW 46.44.101.

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