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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5824**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2026 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators King, Chapman, Dozier, and Shewmake)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/26.

1 AN ACT Relating to fifth-wheel travel trailers; and amending RCW  
2 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, fifth-wheel travel trailer,  
11 or motor home with an overall length not to exceed (~~forty-six~~) 46  
12 feet, (c) an articulated auto stage with an overall length not to  
13 exceed (~~sixty-one~~) 61 feet, excluding a bike rack up to four feet  
14 in length, or (d) an auto recycling carrier up to (~~forty-two~~) 42  
15 feet in length 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) It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of  
9 this state any combination consisting of a truck and trailer, or log  
10 truck and stinger-steered pole trailer, with an overall length, with  
11 or without load, in excess of (~~seventy-five~~) 75 feet. "Stinger-  
12 steered," as used in this section, means the coupling device is  
13 located behind the tread of the tires of the last axle of the towing  
14 vehicle.

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

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

29 (c) For the purposes of calculating the overall length of a  
30 fifth-wheel travel trailer, the measurement is the distance between  
31 the centermost point of the kingpin and the rearmost point of the  
32 vehicle, generally referred to as the rear bumper or rear cap.

33 (5) For purposes of this section:

34 (a) "Fifth-wheel travel trailer" means a vehicle primarily  
35 designed for recreational camping or travel use that does not have  
36 its own motive power and is primarily mounted on or hitched within  
37 the bed of a pickup truck;

38 (b) "Kingpin" means a metal pin protruding from the bottom of the  
39 front of a fifth-wheel travel trailer that is designed to create a

1 pivot point for steering, stability, and connecting the truck and  
2 fifth-wheel travel trailer.

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