
SENATE BILL 5824

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Senators King, Chapman, Dozier, and Shewmake

Prefiled 12/03/25. Read first time 01/12/26. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

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, 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,
14 (~~or~~) (d) an auto recycling carrier up to (~~forty-two~~) 42 feet in
15 length manufactured prior to 2005, or (e) a fifth-wheel travel
16 trailer:

17 (i) With a single axle, not to exceed 38 feet in length from the
18 kingpin to the rearmost axle regardless of overall length; or

19 (ii) With two or more axles, not to exceed 40 feet in length from
20 the kingpin to the rearmost axle regardless of overall length.

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

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

14 (3) It is unlawful for any person to operate on the highways of
15 this state any combination consisting of a truck and trailer, or log
16 truck and stinger-steered pole trailer, with an overall length, with
17 or without load, in excess of (~~seventy-five~~) 75 feet. "Stinger-
18 steered," as used in this section, means the coupling device is
19 located behind the tread of the tires of the last axle of the towing
20 vehicle.

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

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

35 (5) For purposes of this section, "fifth-wheel travel trailer"
36 means a vehicular-type unit primarily designed for recreational
37 camping or travel use that does not have its own motive power and is
38 primarily mounted on or hitched within the bed of a pickup truck.

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