
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL 5427

State of Washington 53rd Legislature 1993 Regular Session

By Senator Loveland; by request of Department of Transportation

Read first time 01/27/93. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to maximum gross weight tire factors; and amending
2 RCW 46.44.042.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.042 and 1985 c 351 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Subject to the maximum gross weights specified in RCW 46.44.041, it
7 is unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways with a
8 gross weight, including load, upon any tire concentrated upon the
9 surface of the highway in excess of six hundred pounds per inch width
10 of such tire. Other than the nonliftable steering axle on the power
11 unit or tiller axle on fire fighting apparatus, an axle manufactured
12 after July 31, 1993, carrying more than ten thousand pounds gross
13 weight must be equipped with four or more tires. Effective January 1,
14 1997, an axle, excluding the nonliftable steering axle on the power
15 unit or tiller axle on fire fighting apparatus, carrying more than ten
16 thousand pounds gross weight must have four or more tires, regardless
17 of date of manufacture. Instead of the four or more tires per axle
18 requirements of this section: (1) An axle may be equipped with two
19 tires limited to five hundred pounds per inch width of tire; or (2) in

1 the case of a ready-mix concrete transit truck, the rear booster
2 trailing axle may be equipped with two tires limited to six hundred
3 pounds per inch width of tire. This section does not apply to oversize
4 and overweight permits issued under RCW 46.44.090. For the purpose of
5 this section, the width of tire in case of solid rubber or hollow
6 center cushion tires, so long as the use thereof may be permitted by
7 the law, shall be measured between the flanges of the rim. For the
8 purpose of this section, the width of tires in case of pneumatic tires
9 shall be the maximum overall normal inflated width as stipulated by the
10 manufacturer when inflated to the pressure specified and without load
11 thereon.

12 The department of transportation, under rules adopted by the
13 transportation commission with respect to state highways, and a local
14 authority, with respect to a public highway under its jurisdiction, may
15 extend the weight table in RCW 46.44.041 to one hundred fifteen
16 thousand pounds. However, the extension must be in compliance with
17 federal law, and vehicles operating under the extension must be in full
18 compliance with the 1997 axle and tire requirements under this section.

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