

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## HB 2572

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*As Passed House  
February 17, 1992*

**Title:** An act relating to the Model Traffic Ordinance.

**Brief Description:** Updating the Model Traffic Ordinance.

**Sponsor(s):** Representatives R. Fisher and Betrozoff.

**Brief History:**

Reported by House Committee on:  
Transportation, February 6, 1992, DP;  
Passed House, February 17, 1992, 82-0.

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**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION**

**Majority Report:** *Do pass.* Signed by 27 members:  
Representatives R. Fisher, Chair; R. Meyers, Vice Chair;  
Betrozoff, Ranking Minority Member; Chandler, Assistant  
Ranking Minority Member; Basich; Brough; Cantwell; Cooper;  
Day; G. Fisher; Forner; Haugen; Heavey; Horn; P. Johnson;  
R. Johnson; Jones; Kremen; Mitchell; Nelson; Orr; Prentice;  
Prince; Schmidt; Wilson; Wood; and Zellinsky.

**Staff:** Mary McLaughlin (786-7309).

**Background:** The Model Traffic Ordinance (MTO) is a listing of state traffic and motor vehicle laws that a city, town or county may adopt, by reference, to serve as its local traffic ordinance. The MTO may be adopted in whole or in part, and a local government may exclude any sections it does not wish to include in its local laws. The model is updated each year to incorporate recently enacted statutes.

**Summary of Bill:** Recent legislative enactments added to the model are that: (1) school buses must be equipped with a crossing arm mounted to the bus effective September 1, 1992; (2) initial tow movements are exempt from the state's highway weight limitation requirements; (3) it is a traffic infraction for anyone to knowingly direct the loading of a vehicle in excess of the weight limitations for highway usage; and (4) refusal of a person to submit to an alcohol blood or breath test is admissible evidence at a subsequent criminal trial.

***Fiscal Note:*** Not requested.

***Effective Date:*** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

***Testimony For:*** Incorporation of recent legislative enactments into the model allows local jurisdictions to adopt these new traffic laws by reference.

***Testimony Against:*** None.

***Witnesses:*** Craig Olson, Association of Washington Cities.