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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5995**

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**State of Washington**

**53rd Legislature**

**1994 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Skratek, Erwin, Vognild, Drew, Winsley, Sheldon, Pelz, Nelson, McAuliffe and M. Rasmussen)

Read first time 01/31/94.

1 AN ACT Relating to reckless endangerment of highway workers; adding  
2 a new section to chapter 46.61 RCW; prescribing penalties; and  
3 declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.61 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) The secretary of transportation shall adopt standards and  
8 specifications for the use of traffic control devices in roadway  
9 construction zones on state highways. A roadway construction zone is  
10 an area where construction, repair, or maintenance work is being  
11 conducted by public employees or private contractors, on or adjacent to  
12 any public roadway.

13 (2) No person may drive a vehicle in a roadway construction zone at  
14 a speed greater than that allowed by traffic control devices.

15 (3) A person found to have committed any infraction relating to  
16 speed restrictions in a roadway construction zone shall be assessed a  
17 monetary penalty equal to twice the penalty assessed under RCW  
18 46.63.110. This penalty may not be waived, reduced, or suspended.

1 (4) A person who drives a vehicle in a roadway construction zone in  
2 such a manner as to endanger or be likely to endanger any persons or  
3 property, or who removes, evades, or intentionally strikes a traffic  
4 safety or control device is guilty of reckless endangerment of roadway  
5 workers. A violation of this subsection is a class C felony punishable  
6 under chapter 9A.20 RCW.

7 (5) The department shall suspend for sixty days the license or  
8 permit to drive or a nonresident driving privilege of a person  
9 convicted of reckless endangerment of roadway workers.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
11 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
12 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
13 effect immediately.

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