

**SENATE BILL REPORT**

**SSB 5237**

**AS PASSED SENATE, JANUARY 27, 1992**

**Brief Description:** Requiring large, slow vehicles to keep right.

**SPONSORS:** Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Bailey, Johnson, Patterson, Rinehart, Vognild, Anderson, Cantu, McCaslin, Oke, Nelson, Conner and Erwin).

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

**Majority Report:** That Substitute Senate Bill No. 5237 be substituted therefor, and the substitute bill do pass.

Signed by Senators Patterson, Chairman; Nelson, Vice Chairman; Conner, Erwin, Madsen, McMullen, Oke, Skratek, Snyder, and Vognild.

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

**Hearing Dates:** March 6, 1991

**BACKGROUND:**

Current law requires a truck to remain in the right lane on any roadway with two or more lanes in the same direction except when passing, travelling faster than the traffic flow, moving left for merging traffic, or preparing to turn left.

**SUMMARY:**

On a facility with two or more lanes in one direction, the keep right provisions apply to vehicles with a licensed gross weight of 10,000 pounds or more, except when passing, moving left for merging traffic, or preparing to turn left. On a freeway with three or more lanes in the same direction, vehicles with a licensed gross weight of 26,000 pounds or more may not travel in the left lane except when preparing to turn left or using an HOV lane. Travelling faster than the traffic flow is no longer considered an exception to the keep right provisions.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** available

**TESTIMONY FOR:**

Clarification to the keep right provisions may enhance enforcement.

**TESTIMONY AGAINST:** None

**TESTIFIED:** Senator Bailey, prime sponsor; Dave Peach, DOT; Rick Jensen, WSP; Martin Sangster, WTA