

FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 5295

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SYNOPSIS AS ENACTED

Brief Description: Requiring identification on big trucks.

SPONSORS: Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Conner, Patterson, Stratton and Nelson).

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

BACKGROUND:

Trucks operating in the state of Washington are required to display certain identification markings. By law, trucks over 10,000 pounds are required to display the licensed gross weight on the cab in letters not less than two inches high.

By administrative rule, the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) requires intrastate common and contract carriers to display the company's name and operating authority permit number on the vehicle in letters three inches high. All interstate common, contract and private carriers are required by the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) to display the company name and address on the vehicle. Intrastate private carriers are subject only to the licensed gross weight marking.

Each year common and contract carriers registered with the UTC are required to purchase an identification stamp which indicates that the vehicle's annual registration fees have been paid. The identification stamp fee is currently \$3. This fee has not been raised since 1967. By federal law a state may charge up to \$10 for the annual identification stamp.

SUMMARY:

Common, contract and private carriers, other than UTC exempt carriers and private carriers with a licensed gross weight of less than 36,000 pounds, must display an identifying name and/or number on both doors of the power unit. The identification must be permanent. Any required identification that is added, modified or renewed after September 1, 1991 must be located on the driver and passenger doors. Intrastate carriers whose existing markings are in locations other than the doors of the power unit are not required to relocate their identification until certain modifications are made. Leased carriers may display a placard instead of permanent markings.

For common and contract carriers the identification is the name of the permittee or business name, and (1) the UTC permit number if the carrier is an intrastate carrier, or (2) the ICC certificate or UTC permit number if the carrier engages in interstate commerce. For a private carrier with a licensed gross weight of 36,000 pounds or more, the identification is the name and address of the business operating the truck or the registered owner.

UTC exempt carriers include U.S. mail carriers, publicly-owned vehicles, farm vehicles, towing vehicles and vehicles weighing less than 8,000 pounds transporting legal documents.

The UTC annual identification stamp fee for common and contract carriers registered with the commission is raised to the federal maximum of \$10.

VOTES ON FINAL PASSAGE:

Senate	40	9	
House	95	0	(House amended)
Senate	31	14	(Senate concurred)

EFFECTIVE: July 28, 1991