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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5835**

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**State of Washington**

**52nd Legislature**

**1991 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Sellar, Talmadge and Nelson).

Read first time March 6, 1991.

1       AN ACT Relating to conveyances for recreational purposes at ski  
2 areas; and amending RCW 70.117.010, 70.88.080, and 70.88.090.

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

4       **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.117.010 and 1989 c 81 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6       (1) The operator of any ski area shall maintain a sign system based  
7 on international or national standards and as may be required by the  
8 state parks and recreation commission.

9       All signs for instruction of the public shall be bold in design  
10 with wording short, simple, and to the point. All such signs shall be  
11 prominently placed.

12       Entrances to all machinery, operators', and attendants' rooms shall  
13 be posted to the effect that unauthorized persons are not permitted  
14 therein.

1 The sign "Working on Lift" or a similar warning sign shall be hung  
2 on the main disconnect switch and at control points for starting the  
3 auxiliary or prime mover when a person is working on the passenger  
4 tramway.

5 ~~((2) The interior of each reversible aerial tramway and gondola  
6 lift shall be prominently posted to show:~~

7 ~~(a) The maximum capacity of each reversible aerial tramway and  
8 gondola lift in pounds and number of passengers (which shall also be  
9 posted at each loading area); and~~

10 ~~(b) Instructions for procedure in emergencies.~~

11 ~~(3) The following signs shall be posted at all aerial lifts except  
12 gondola lifts:~~

13 ~~(a) "Prepare to Unload" (not less than fifty feet ahead of  
14 unloading area);~~

15 ~~(b) "Keep Ski Tips Up" (ahead of any point where skis may come in  
16 contact with a platform or the snow surface);~~

17 ~~(c) "Unload Here";~~

18 ~~(d) "Safety Gate" (if applicable);~~

19 ~~(e) "Remove Pole Straps from Wrists" (at loading area); and~~

20 ~~(f) Sign visible at all points of downhill loading, listing  
21 downhill capacity of lift.~~

22 ~~(4) The following signs shall be posted at all surface lifts:~~

23 ~~(a) "Prepare to Unload" (not less than fifty feet ahead of  
24 unloading area);~~

25 ~~(b) "Stay in Track";~~

26 ~~(c) "Unload Here";~~

27 ~~(d) "Safety Gate"; and~~

28 ~~(e) "Remove Pole Straps from Wrists" (at loading area).~~

29 ~~(5) The following signs shall be posted at all tows:~~

30 ~~(a) "No Loose Scarves~~



1 (b) The skiing-ability level recommended for users of the lift and  
2 the runs served by the device shall be classified "easiest", "more  
3 difficult", and "most difficult".

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 70.88.080 and 1990 c 136 s 3 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 Inspections, rules, and orders of the state parks and recreation  
7 commission resulting from the exercise of the provisions of this  
8 chapter(~~(, as well as under RCW 70.88.020,)~~) and chapter 70.117 RCW  
9 shall not in any manner be deemed to impose liability upon the state  
10 for any injury or damage resulting from the operation or signing of the  
11 facilities regulated by this chapter, and all actions of the state  
12 parks and recreation commission and its personnel shall be deemed to be  
13 an exercise of the police power of the state.

14 **Sec. 3.** RCW 70.88.090 and 1959 c 327 s 9 are each amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 The state parks and recreation commission is empowered to adopt  
17 reasonable rules(~~(, regulations,)~~) and codes relating to public safety  
18 in the construction, operation, signing, and maintenance of the  
19 recreational devices provided for in this chapter. The rules(~~(, regulations)~~)  
20 ~~regulations~~) and codes authorized hereunder shall be in accordance  
21 with established standards, if any, and shall not be discriminatory in  
22 their application.