
HOUSE BILL 1344

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representative Jones

Read first time 01/25/93. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to vehicle axles; and reenacting and amending RCW
2 46.44.041.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.44.041 and 1988 c 229 s 1 and 1988 c 6 s 2 are each
5 reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 No vehicle or combination of vehicles shall operate upon the public
7 highways of this state with a gross load on any single axle in excess
8 of twenty thousand pounds, or upon any group of axles in excess of that
9 set forth in the following table, except that two consecutive sets of
10 tandem axles may carry a gross load of thirty-four thousand pounds
11 each, if the overall distance between the first and last axles of such
12 consecutive sets of tandem axles is thirty-six feet or more.

1 Dis-
 2 tance
 3 in feet Maximum load in pounds
 4 between carried on any group of 2
 5 the ex- or more consecutive axles
 6 tremes
 7 of any
 8 group
 9 of 2
 10 or more

11 consecutive	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12 axles	axles	axles	axles	axles	axles	axles	axles	axles
14 4	34,000							
15 5	34,000							
16 6	34,000							
17 7	34,000							
18 8	34,000	42,000						
19 9	39,000	42,500						
20 10	40,000	43,500						
21 11		44,000						
22 12		45,000	50,000					
23 13		45,500	50,500					
24 14		46,500	51,500					
25 15		47,000	52,000					
26 16		48,000	52,500	52,500				
27 17		48,500	53,500	53,500				
28 18		49,500	54,000	54,000				
29 19		50,000	54,500	54,500				
30 20		51,000	55,500	55,500				
31 21		51,500	56,000	56,000				
32 22		52,500	56,500	56,500				
33 23		53,000	57,500	57,500				
34 24		54,000	58,000	58,000				
35 25		54,500	58,500	58,500				
36 26		55,500	59,500	59,500				
37 27		56,000	60,000	60,000				
38 28		57,000	60,500	61,000	61,000			
39 29		57,500	61,500	62,000	62,000			

1	30	58,500	62,000	63,000	63,000		
2	31	59,000	62,500	64,000	64,500		
3	32	60,000	63,500	65,000	65,000		
4	33		64,000	66,000	66,000		
5	34		64,500	67,000	67,000		
6	35		65,500	68,000	68,000		
7	36		66,000	69,500	69,500		
8	37		66,500	70,500	70,500		
9	38		67,500	72,000	72,000		
10	39		68,000	72,500	72,500		
11	40		68,500	73,000	73,000		
12	41		69,500	73,500	73,500		
13	42		70,000	74,000	74,000		
14	43		70,500	75,000	75,000		
15	44		71,500	75,500	75,500		
16	45		72,000	76,000	76,000		
17	46		72,500	76,500	80,000	80,000	
18	47		73,500	77,000	81,000	81,000	
19	48		74,000	78,000	82,000	82,000	
20	49		74,500	78,500	83,000	83,000	
21	50		75,500	79,000	84,000	84,000	
22	51		76,000	80,000	84,500	85,000	
23	52		76,500	80,500	85,000	86,000	
24	53		77,500	81,000	86,000	87,000	
25	54		78,000	81,500	86,500	88,000	91,000
26	55		78,500	82,500	87,000	89,000	92,000
27	56		79,500	83,000	87,500	90,000	93,000
28	57		80,000	83,500	88,000	91,000	94,000
29	58			84,000	89,000	92,000	95,000
30	59			85,000	89,500	93,500	96,000
31	60			85,500	90,000	95,000	97,000
32	61			86,000	90,500	95,500	98,000
33	62			87,000	91,000	96,000	99,000
34	63			87,500	92,000	97,000	100,000
35	64			88,000	92,500	97,500	101,000
36	65			88,500	93,000	98,000	102,000
37	66			89,500	93,500	98,500	103,000
38	67			90,000	94,000	99,000	104,000

1	68	90,500	95,000	99,500	105,000	105,000
2	69	91,000	95,500	100,000	105,500	105,500
3	70	92,000	96,000	101,000	105,500	105,500

4 When inches are involved: Under six inches take lower, six inches or
5 over take higher. The maximum load on any axle in any group of axles
6 shall not exceed the single axle or tandem axle allowance as set forth
7 in the table above.

8 The maximum axle and gross weights specified in this section are
9 subject to the braking requirements set up for the service brakes upon
10 any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles as provided by law.

11 It is unlawful to operate upon the public highways any single unit
12 vehicle, supported upon three axles or more with a gross weight
13 including load in excess of forty thousand pounds or any combination of
14 vehicles having a gross weight in excess of eighty thousand pounds
15 without first obtaining an additional tonnage permit as provided for in
16 RCW 46.44.095: PROVIDED, That when a combination of vehicles has
17 purchased license tonnage in excess of seventy-two thousand pounds as
18 provided by RCW 46.16.070, such excess license tonnage may be applied
19 to the power unit subject to limitations of RCW 46.44.042 and this
20 section when such vehicle is operated without a trailer.

21 ~~((It is unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways
22 equipped with two axles spaced less than seven feet apart unless the
23 two axles are so constructed and mounted that the difference in weight
24 between the axles does not exceed three thousand pounds. However,
25 variable lift axles are exempt from this requirement. For purposes of
26 this section, a "variable lift axle" is an axle that may be lifted from
27 the roadway surface, whether by air, hydraulic, mechanical, or any
28 combination of these means. The weight allowed on the axle is governed
29 by RCW 46.44.042 and this section.))~~

30 Loads of not more than eighty thousand pounds which may be legally
31 hauled in the state bordering this state which also has a sales tax,
32 are legal in this state when moving to a port district within four
33 miles of the bordering state except on the interstate system. This
34 provision does not allow the operation of a vehicle combination
35 consisting of a truck tractor and three trailers.

36 Notwithstanding anything contained herein, a vehicle or
37 combination of vehicles in operation on January 4, 1975, may operate
38 upon the public highways of this state, including the interstate system
39 within the meaning of section 127 of Title 23, United States Code, with

1 an overall gross weight upon a group of two consecutive sets of dual
2 axles which was lawful in this state under the laws, regulations and
3 procedures in effect in this state on January 4, 1975.

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