
SENATE BILL 5099

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Sellar, Rasmussen, Benton, Oke, Gardner, Swecker, Goings, Horn, Eide, Patterson, Morton, Prentice and Costa

Read first time 01/13/1999. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the powers and duties of commercial vehicle
2 enforcement officers; adding new sections to chapter 43.43 RCW; and
3 creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that the
6 following factors demonstrate the need for changes in the commercial
7 vehicle enforcement program:

8 (1) The presence of commercial motor vehicles on Washington roads
9 and highways is increasing substantially per year;

10 (2) Appropriately trained commercial vehicle enforcement officers
11 are essential to ensuring the safety of the traveling public;

12 (3) Implementation of the Commercial Vehicle Information Systems
13 and Networks program and weigh-in-motion technology will increase
14 program effectiveness and the need for new processes to be used in
15 commercial vehicle enforcement; and

16 (4) The Washington state economy is becoming increasingly dependent
17 on the safe and efficient transportation of freight on state highways.

1 The legislature finds that enhanced responsibility and training for
2 commercial vehicle enforcement officers will contribute to the
3 efficient and safe delivery of freight in Washington.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.43 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 The commercial vehicle enforcement program must be fully staffed
7 using the commercial vehicle enforcement officer positions and staffing
8 levels as enacted in the transportation budget.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.43 RCW
10 to read as follows:

11 The powers and duties of the commercial vehicle enforcement
12 officers are to enforce state and federal laws and regulations relating
13 to motor transport carriers and other related statutes and regulations
14 as directed by law. Commercial vehicle enforcement officers have the
15 same traffic infraction enforcement authority as commissioned
16 Washington state patrol officers as it relates to situations involving
17 commercial vehicles. The patrol shall provide the training necessary
18 to ensure the safety and success of the officers in these duties.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 43.43 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 Commercial vehicle enforcement officers may provide medical
22 assistance and direct traffic in situations where the officers can be
23 of assistance. The patrol shall continue to provide training to
24 commercial vehicle enforcement officers in first aid and traffic
25 control.

--- END ---