

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 1095

As Amended by the Senate

Title: An act relating to the authority to issue special permits for oversize or overweight movements.

Brief Description: Updating oversize load permits.

Sponsors: Representatives Mitchell, Fisher and Hankins; by request of Department of Transportation.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Transportation: 1/31/01, 2/1/01 [DP].

Floor Activity:

Passed House: 2/20/01, 97-0.

Senate Amended.

Passed Senate: 4/4/01, 48-0.

Brief Summary of Bill
<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Authorizes electronic issuance of over-size, weight, and load permits.· Repeals duplicate authorization provisions.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 26 members: Representatives Fisher, Democratic Co-Chair; Mitchell, Republican Co-Chair; Cooper, Democratic Vice Chair; Hankins, Republican Vice Chair; Lovick, Democratic Vice Chair; Ahern, Anderson, Armstrong, Edmonds, Haigh, Hatfield, Hurst, Jackley, Jarrett, Marine, Mielke, Morell, Murray, Rockefeller, Romero, Schindler, Simpson, Skinner, Sump, Wood and Woods.

Staff: Penny Nerup (786-7335).

Background:

The Legislature has given authority to the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue permits that regulate the movement of vehicles that exceed size, weight, and load

restrictions on state highways. Currently, there are two authorizations in statute, both in chapter 46.44 RCW. One provides DOT with the authority to issue permits to over-sized vehicles; the other provides authority to issue permits to over-sized or over-weight vehicles or loads. This duplication has led to some minor confusion and has complicated the rule-making process by creating an unnecessary division for rule-making authority.

Applicants for excessive size, weight or load permits are required to apply in writing for a permit and must show good cause for issuance. Good cause being shown, DOT then grants the special permit in writing. In order to keep up with current capabilities and the future direction of e-government, DOT would like to be able to issue these permits electronically as well as in writing.

Summary of Bill:

The duplicate statutory provision is repealed.

DOT is authorized to issue over-size, weight, and load special permits electronically, in addition to the method by which a permit is presently issued. The bill also identifies which statutory references an approved special permit applicant may exceed.

EFFECT OF SENATE AMENDMENT(S):

A new code section is created concerning size, weight, and load restrictions for fire-fighting apparatus operating on state highways. Fire-fighting apparatus that conforms to specific weight and dimension standards may operate without a permit from the Department of Transportation. Over-weight fire-fighting apparatus in operation prior to July 1, 2001 may be granted annual permits with special operating instructions from the Department of Transportation.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: This is Department of Transportation request legislation and makes technical corrections.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: Ken Kirkland, Washington State Department of Transportation.