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HOUSE BILL 2166

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State of Washington                      57th Legislature                      2001 Regular Session

By Representatives Armstrong, G. Chandler and Schoesler

Read first time 02/20/2001. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            AN ACT Relating to clarification of exemption from commercial  
2 driver's license requirements for certain trucks hauling Christmas  
3 trees and wood products from private tree farms; and amending RCW  
4 46.25.050.

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

6            **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.25.050 and 1995 c 393 s 1 are each amended to read  
7 as follows:

8            (1) Drivers of commercial motor vehicles shall obtain a commercial  
9 driver's license as required under this chapter by April 1, 1992. The  
10 director shall establish a program to convert all qualified commercial  
11 motor vehicle drivers by that date. After April 1, 1992, except when  
12 driving under a commercial driver's instruction permit and a valid  
13 automobile or classified license and accompanied by the holder of a  
14 commercial driver's license valid for the vehicle being driven, no  
15 person may drive a commercial motor vehicle unless the person holds and  
16 is in immediate possession of a commercial driver's license and  
17 applicable endorsements valid for the vehicle they are driving.  
18 However, this requirement does not apply to any person:

19            (a) Who is the operator of a farm vehicle, and the vehicle is:

1 (i) Controlled and operated by a farmer;

2 (ii)(A) Used to transport either agricultural products, ((which in  
3 this section include Christmas trees and wood products harvested from  
4 private tree farms and transported by vehicles weighing no more than  
5 forty thousand pounds licensed gross vehicle weight,)) farm machinery,  
6 farm supplies, or any combination of those materials to or from a farm;  
7 or

8 (B) Used to transport Christmas trees and wood products harvested  
9 from private tree farms and transported by vehicles weighing no more  
10 than forty thousand pounds licensed gross vehicle weight;

11 (iii) Not used in the operations of a common or contract motor  
12 carrier; and

13 (iv) Used within one hundred fifty miles of the person's farm; or

14 (b) Who is a fire fighter or law enforcement officer operating  
15 emergency equipment, and:

16 (i) The fire fighter or law enforcement officer has successfully  
17 completed a driver training course approved by the director; and

18 (ii) The fire fighter or law enforcement officer carries a  
19 certificate attesting to the successful completion of the approved  
20 training course; or

21 (c) Who is operating a recreational vehicle for noncommercial  
22 purposes. As used in this section, "recreational vehicle" includes a  
23 vehicle towing a horse trailer for a noncommercial purpose.

24 (2) No person may drive a commercial motor vehicle while his or her  
25 driving privilege is suspended, revoked, or canceled, while subject to  
26 disqualification, or in violation of an out-of-service order.  
27 Violations of this subsection shall be punished in the same way as  
28 violations of RCW 46.20.342(1).

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