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**Transportation Committee**

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**HB 1615**

**Brief Description:** Requiring vehicle sound system components to be securely attached.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Dunshee, Pearson, Lovick, Kristiansen, Berkey, Sullivan and Wood.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Requires vehicle sound system components, such as stereo speakers, to be securely fastened to the vehicle.
- Failure to do so is a traffic infraction.

**Hearing Date:** 2/28/03

**Staff:** Jeff Doyle (786-7322).

**Background:**

It is increasingly popular for motor vehicle owners to wire or install stereo speakers in the back seat of a car or in the bed of a passenger truck. Certain stereo speakers are manufactured only for residential use, rather than automotive use. These ill-adapted speakers pose a safety risk when installed in a motor vehicle, as they can become dangerous projectiles in the event of a collision.

There are no state laws specifically prohibiting or restricting the placement of sound system components (such as stereo speakers) on or within a vehicle, nor are there specific rules or regulations in the Washington Administrative Code that prohibit or restrict the placement of such equipment.

**Summary of Bill:**

All vehicle sound system components must be securely attached to the vehicle so that they cannot become dislodged or loose during operation of the vehicle. Failure to do so is a traffic infraction.

Law enforcement officers may only issue tickets for this infraction as a secondary violation.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not Requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.