
SENATE BILL 5986

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senator West

Read first time 02/27/2003. Referred to Committee on Highways & Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to vehicles driven side by side in a single lane;
2 and amending RCW 46.61.140.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.61.140 and 1965 ex.s. c 155 s 23 are each amended
5 to read as follows:

6 Whenever any roadway has been divided into two or more clearly
7 marked lanes for traffic the following rules in addition to all others
8 consistent herewith shall apply:

9 (1) A vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practicable entirely
10 within a single lane and shall not be moved from such lane until the
11 driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made with
12 safety. However, two vehicles may be driven side by side in a single
13 lane if the overall width of neither vehicle exceeds forty-two inches.

14 (2) Upon a roadway which is divided into three lanes and provides
15 for two-way movement of traffic, a vehicle shall not be driven in the
16 center lane except when overtaking and passing another vehicle
17 traveling in the same direction when such center lane is clear of
18 traffic within a safe distance, or in preparation for making a left

1 turn or where such center lane is at the time allocated exclusively to
2 traffic moving in the same direction that the vehicle is proceeding and
3 such allocation is designated by official traffic-control devices.

4 (3) Official traffic-control devices may be erected directing slow
5 moving or other specified traffic to use a designated lane or
6 designating those lanes to be used by traffic moving in a particular
7 direction regardless of the center of the roadway and drivers of
8 vehicles shall obey the directions of every such device.

9 (4) Official traffic-control devices may be installed prohibiting
10 the changing of lanes on sections of roadway and drivers of vehicles
11 shall obey the directions of every such device.

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