
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6546

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Weinstein, Sheldon and Haugen; by request of Washington State Patrol)

READ FIRST TIME 1/19/2006.

1 AN ACT Relating to the definition of a moped; and amending RCW
2 46.04.304 and 46.44.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.04.304 and 1990 c 250 s 18 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 "Moped" means a motorized device designed to travel with not more
7 than three (~~sixteen-inch or larger diameter~~) wheels in contact with
8 the ground(~~, having fully operative pedals for propulsion by human~~
9 ~~power,~~) and an electric or a liquid fuel motor with a cylinder
10 displacement not exceeding fifty cubic centimeters which produces no
11 more than two gross brake horsepower (developed by a prime mover, as
12 measured by a brake applied to the driving shaft) that is capable of
13 propelling the device at not more than thirty miles per hour on level
14 ground.

15 The Washington state patrol may approve of and define as a "moped"
16 a vehicle which fails to meet these specific criteria, but which is
17 essentially similar in performance and application to motorized devices
18 which do meet these specific criteria.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.44.050 and 1979 ex.s. c 213 s 7 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle upon public highways
4 with a wheelbase between any two axles thereof of less than three feet,
5 six inches when weight exceeds that allowed for one axle under RCW
6 46.44.042 or 46.44.041. It shall be unlawful to operate any motor
7 vehicle upon the public highways of this state with a wheelbase between
8 the frontmost axle and the rearmost axle of less than three feet, six
9 inches(~~(: PROVIDED, That the minimum wheelbase for mopeds is thirty-~~
10 ~~eight inches)~~)).

11 For the purposes of this section, wheelbase shall be measured upon
12 a straight line from center to center of the vehicle axles designated.

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