

SB 5050 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Transportation

ADOPTED 04/09/2013

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 46.61.625 and 1999 c 398 s 9 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) No person or persons shall occupy any trailer while it is being
6 moved upon a public highway, except a person occupying a proper
7 position for steering a trailer designed to be steered from a rear-end
8 position.

9 (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, no person
10 or persons may occupy a vehicle while it is being towed by a tow truck
11 as defined in RCW 46.55.010.

12 (3)(a) A tow truck operator may allow passengers to ride in a
13 vehicle that is carried on the deck of a flatbed tow truck only when
14 the following conditions are met:

15 (i) The number of people that need to be transported exceeds the
16 seating capacity of the tow truck or a person needing to be transported
17 has a disability that limits that person's ability to enter the tow
18 truck;

19 (ii) All passengers in the carried vehicle and in the tow truck
20 comply with RCW 46.61.687 and 46.61.688;

21 (iii) Any passenger under sixteen years of age is accompanied by an
22 adult riding in the same vehicle; and

23 (iv) There is a way for the passengers in the carried vehicle to
24 immediately communicate, either verbally, audibly, or visually, with
25 the tow truck operator in case of an emergency.

26 (b) No passenger of such a carried vehicle may exit the carried
27 vehicle, ride outside of the passenger compartment of the carried
28 vehicle, or exhibit dangerous or distracting behaviors while in the
29 carried vehicle."

1 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Clarifies that the bill applies to all tow truck operators whether or not they are registered with the department of licensing; allows persons with disabilities to ride in a passenger vehicle being carried on the back of a flatbed tow truck irrespective of whether or not the tow truck has sufficient seating capacity; provides additional requirements for riding in a passenger vehicle that is being carried by a flatbed tow truck, including that minors be accompanied by an adult and that passengers be able to communicate with the driver of the tow truck in case of an emergency; and prohibits dangerous or distracting behavior by passengers in such a vehicle being carried.

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