
Transportation Committee

HB 2181

Brief Description: Modifying the maximum speed limit on highways.

Sponsors: Representatives Schmick, Clibborn and Orcutt.

<p style="text-align: center;">Brief Summary of Bill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Allows the Secretary of the Washington State Department of Transportation to increase the maximum speed limit on any state highway to 75 miles per hour.
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Hearing Date: 2/26/15

Staff: Andrew Russell (786-7143).

Background:

Maximum Speed Limits.

Generally, the maximum speed limit on public streets, roads, and highways is set by statute: 25 miles per hour (mph) on city and town streets, 50 mph on county roads, and 60 mph on state highways. These limits may be increased or decreased by the Washington State Department of Transportation if an engineering and traffic investigation shows that a higher or lower maximum speed is reasonable and safe under the circumstances. Local authorities may also alter these general speed limits. The maximum speed limit on any state highway, however, may not be increased to greater than 70 mph. Additionally, vehicles with a gross weight of greater than 10,000 pounds may not exceed 60 mph.

Summary of Bill:

The Secretary of the Washington Department of Transportation may increase the maximum speed limit on any highway or portion of highway to not more than 75 miles per hour.

Appropriation: None.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

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