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## Transportation Committee

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### HB 1309

**Brief Description:** Phasing out the use of studded tires.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Ryu and Tharinger.

#### Brief Summary of Bill

- Increases the fee imposed on the sale of each new studded tire to \$100, effective July 1, 2019. The retailer may retain 1 percent of the fee, or \$1.
- Makes it a traffic infraction to sell a studded tire or a stud for installation in a tire beginning January 1, 2020.
- Prohibits the use of tires with metal studs imbedded on the public highways of the state beginning July 1, 2025.

**Hearing Date:** 1/31/19

**Staff:** Beth Redfield (786-7140).

#### Background:

Tires with metal studs imbedded may be used between November 1 and April 1 when required for safety because of snow, ice, or other conditions. Tires with retractable studs may be used year round.

A \$5 fee is imposed on the retail sale of each new tire sold that contains studs. The fee is paid to the retailer, who may retain 10 percent, or 50 cents.

As of July 1, 2001, only lightweight studs may be sold for installation in studded tires.

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) must maintain signage and other traffic control devices providing information about equipment recommendations and requirements during traction advisories in snowy weather. Such signs may not prohibit the use of studded tires between November 1 and April 1.

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*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.*

**Summary of Bill:**

Effective July 1, 2019, the fee imposed on the sale of each new studded tire is increased to \$100. The retailer may retain 1 percent of the fee, or \$1.

Beginning January 1, 2020, it is a traffic infraction to sell a studded tire or a stud for installation in a tire.

Beginning July 1, 2025, tires with metal studs imbedded may no longer be used on a vehicle on the public highways of the state. The exception for tires with retractable studs also expires July 1, 2025.

As of July 1, 2025, the WSDOT signage requirements no longer reference studded tires.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on January 21, 2019.

**Effective Date:** Sections 1 through 4 of this act take effect July 1, 2019. Section 5 takes effect July 1, 2025.