

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6208**

---

**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Billig, Rivers, Lias, Randall, and Wilson, C.)

READ FIRST TIME 02/04/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing mobility through the modification  
2 of stop sign requirements for bicyclists; amending RCW 46.61.050,  
3 46.61.190, 46.61.200, 46.61.755, and 47.36.110; and providing an  
4 effective date.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.61.050 and 2019 c 214 s 9 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The driver of any vehicle, (~~every bicyclist~~) a person  
9 operating a bicycle, and every pedestrian shall obey, and the  
10 operation of every personal delivery device shall follow, the  
11 instructions of any official traffic control device applicable  
12 thereto, and as specified in this chapter, placed in accordance with  
13 the provisions of this chapter, unless otherwise directed by a  
14 traffic or police officer, subject to the exception granted the  
15 driver of an authorized emergency vehicle in this chapter.

16 (2) No provision of this chapter for which official traffic  
17 control devices are required shall be enforced against an alleged  
18 violator if at the time and place of the alleged violation an  
19 official device is not in proper position and sufficiently legible or  
20 visible to be seen by an ordinarily observant person. Whenever a  
21 particular section does not state that official traffic control

1 devices are required, such section shall be effective even though no  
2 devices are erected or in place.

3 (3) Whenever official traffic control devices are placed in  
4 position approximately conforming to the requirements of this  
5 chapter, such devices shall be presumed to have been so placed by the  
6 official act or direction of lawful authority, unless the contrary  
7 shall be established by competent evidence.

8 (4) Any official traffic control device placed pursuant to the  
9 provisions of this chapter and purporting to conform to the lawful  
10 requirements pertaining to such devices shall be presumed to comply  
11 with the requirements of this chapter, unless the contrary shall be  
12 established by competent evidence.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.61.190 and 2019 c 403 s 7 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1) Preferential right-of-way may be indicated by stop signs or  
16 yield signs as authorized in RCW 47.36.110.

17 (2) (a) Except when directed to proceed by a duly authorized  
18 flagger, or a police officer, or a firefighter vested by law with  
19 authority to direct, control, or regulate traffic, every driver of a  
20 vehicle approaching a stop sign shall stop except as provided in (b)  
21 of this subsection at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before  
22 entering a marked crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or,  
23 if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the  
24 driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway  
25 before entering the roadway, and after having stopped shall yield the  
26 right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on  
27 another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard  
28 during the time when such driver is moving across or within the  
29 intersection or junction of roadways.

30 (b) (i) With the exception of (b) (ii) and (iii) of this  
31 subsection, a person operating a bicycle approaching a stop sign  
32 shall either:

33 (A) Follow the requirements for approaching a stop sign as  
34 specified in (a) of this subsection; or

35 (B) Follow the requirements for approaching a yield sign as  
36 specified in subsection (3) of this section.

37 (ii) A person operating a bicycle approaching a stop sign located  
38 at a highway grade crossing of a railroad must follow the  
39 requirements of RCW 46.61.345.

1        (iii) A person operating a bicycle approaching a "stop" signal in  
2 use by a school bus, as required under RCW 46.37.190, must follow the  
3 requirements of RCW 46.61.370.

4        (3) The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign shall in  
5 obedience to such sign slow down to a speed reasonable for the  
6 existing conditions and if required for safety to stop, shall stop at  
7 a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering a marked  
8 crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or if none, then at  
9 the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a  
10 view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway before  
11 entering the roadway, and then after slowing or stopping, the driver  
12 shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or  
13 approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an  
14 immediate hazard during the time such driver is moving across or  
15 within the intersection or junction of roadways: PROVIDED, That if  
16 such a driver is involved in a collision with a vehicle in the  
17 intersection or junction of roadways, after driving past a yield sign  
18 without stopping, such collision shall be deemed prima facie evidence  
19 of the driver's failure to yield right-of-way.

20        (4) (a) When right-of-way has not been yielded in accordance with  
21 this section to a vehicle that is a vulnerable user of a public way,  
22 a driver of a motor vehicle found to be in violation of this section  
23 must be assessed an additional fine equal to the base penalty  
24 assessed under RCW 46.63.110(3). This fine may not be waived,  
25 reduced, or suspended, unless the court finds the offender to be  
26 indigent, and is not subject to the additional fees and assessments  
27 that the base penalty for this violation is subject to under RCW  
28 2.68.040, 3.62.090, and 46.63.110.

29        (b) For the purposes of this section, "vulnerable user of a  
30 public way" has the same meaning as provided in RCW 46.61.526(11) (c).

31        (5) The additional fine imposed under subsection (4) of this  
32 section must be deposited into the vulnerable roadway user education  
33 account created in RCW 46.61.145.

34        **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.61.200 and 1984 c 7 s 67 are each amended to read  
35 as follows:

36        In addition to the points of intersection of any public highway  
37 with any arterial public highway that is constituted by law or by any  
38 proper authorities of this state or any city or town of this state,  
39 the state department of transportation with respect to state

1 highways, and the proper authorities with respect to any other public  
2 highways, have the power to determine and designate any particular  
3 intersection, or any particular highways, roads, or streets or  
4 portions thereof, at any intersection with which vehicles shall be  
5 required to stop before entering such intersection. Upon the  
6 determination and designation of such points at which vehicles will  
7 be required to come to a stop before entering the intersection,  
8 except as provided in RCW 46.61.190, the proper authorities so  
9 determining and designating shall cause to be posted and maintained  
10 proper signs of the standard design adopted by the state department  
11 of transportation indicating that the intersection has been so  
12 determined and designated and that vehicles entering it are required  
13 to stop, except as provided in RCW 46.61.190. It is unlawful for any  
14 person operating any vehicle when entering any intersection  
15 determined, designated, and bearing the required sign to fail and  
16 neglect to bring the vehicle to a complete stop before entering the  
17 intersection, except as provided in RCW 46.61.190.

18 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.61.755 and 2000 c 85 s 3 are each amended to read  
19 as follows:

20 (1) Every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted  
21 all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties  
22 applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this chapter, except as to  
23 special regulations in RCW 46.61.750 through 46.61.780, except as  
24 provided in RCW 46.61.190, and except as to those provisions of this  
25 chapter which by their nature can have no application.

26 (2) Every person riding a bicycle upon a sidewalk or crosswalk  
27 must be granted all of the rights and is subject to all of the duties  
28 applicable to a pedestrian by this chapter.

29 **Sec. 5.** RCW 47.36.110 and 2010 c 8 s 10013 are each amended to  
30 read as follows:

31 In order to provide safety at intersections on the state highway  
32 system, the department may require persons traveling upon any portion  
33 of such highway to stop before entering the intersection, except as  
34 provided in RCW 46.61.190. For this purpose there may be erected a  
35 standard stop sign as prescribed in the state department of  
36 transportation's "Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for  
37 Streets and Highways." All persons traveling upon the highway shall  
38 come to a complete stop at such a sign, except as provided in RCW

1 46.61.190, and the appearance of any sign so located is sufficient  
2 warning to a person that he or she is required to stop. A person  
3 stopping at such a sign shall proceed through that portion of the  
4 highway in a careful manner and at a reasonable rate of speed not to  
5 exceed twenty miles per hour. It is unlawful to fail to comply with  
6 the directions of any such stop sign, except as provided in RCW  
7 46.61.190. When the findings of a traffic engineering study show that  
8 the condition of an intersection is such that vehicles may safely  
9 enter the major artery without stopping, the department or local  
10 authorities in their respective jurisdictions shall install and  
11 maintain a "Yield" sign.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act takes effect October 1, 2020.

--- END ---