

## CHAPTER 269.

[ H. B. 506. ]

## HIGHWAYS—MOTOR VEHICLES.

AN Act relating to highways and the operation of motor vehicles thereon; amending certain sections of the highway and motor vehicle code and adding sections thereto; prescribing the size, weight and licenses of certain motor vehicles and regulating the collection of motor vehicle fuel taxes and fees; providing for an interim legislative committee on highways to make studies; providing for the experimental operation and study of test highways; relating to the organization of the department of highways; prescribing penalties, declaring an emergency and providing effective dates.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

SECTION 1. Section 46.12.040, R. C. W., as derived from section 1, chapter 164, Laws of 1947, is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

The application accompanied by a draft, money order, or certified bank check for one dollar, together with the last preceding certificates or other satisfactory evidence of ownership, shall be forwarded to the director. Certificate of ownership; application forwarded to director.

The fee shall be in addition to any other fee for the license registration of the vehicle. The certificate of ownership shall not be required to be renewed annually, or at any other time, except as by law provided. Fee additional.

[R.C.W. 46.12.040 was derived from Rem. Supp. 1947, § 6312-3, part (subsections d and e).]

SEC. 2. Section 46.12.060, R.C.W., as derived from section 3, chapter 164, Laws of 1947, is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

Before the director shall issue a certificate of ownership, or re-issue such a certificate, covering any vehicle, the motor number of which, in case of a motor vehicle, or the serial number of which, in case of a trailer, has been altered, removed, obliterated, defaced, omitted, or is otherwise absent, the Where motor or serial number has been tampered with.

Special  
motor,  
identifica-  
tion, or serial  
number.

registered owner of the vehicle shall file an application with the director, accompanied by a fee of one dollar, upon a form provided, and containing such facts and information as shall be required by the director for the assignment of a special number for such vehicle. Upon receipt of such application, the director, if he is satisfied the applicant is entitled to the assignment of a motor number, identification number, or serial number, shall designate a special motor number, identification number, or serial number, as the case may be, together with a symbol indicative of this state, for such vehicle, which symbol followed by such number shall be noted upon the application therefor, and likewise upon a suitable record of the authorization of the use thereof, to be kept by and in the office of the director. The applicant for such assignment of number shall be, in case of a motor vehicle, promptly notified of the number assigned and the symbol to be prefixed thereto, and such applicant shall thereupon cause such symbol and motor number to be pressed or cut in a conspicuous position upon the motor, if the assigned number is a motor number, or frame or other permanent part of the motor vehicle, if the number assigned is an identification number. The applicant for such assignment of number shall be, in case of a trailer, assigned a proper identification number which shall be placed or stamped in a conspicuous position upon the outside of the trailer in such manner and form as may be prescribed by the director. Upon receipt by the director of a certificate by an officer of the Washington state patrol, or other person authorized by the director, that he has inspected such vehicle and that the motor number, or identification number, together with the symbol so assigned, or the special serial number plate, have been legally pressed or cut in a conspicuous position upon the motor or upon the most permanent part of the motor

Same;  
trailer.

vehicle most readily accessible for inspection, or stamped or securely attached in a conspicuous position upon the outside of the trailer, accompanied by an application for a certificate of ownership or application for reissue of such certificate and the required fee therefor, the director shall use such number and such symbol as the numerical identification marks for the vehicle in any certificate of license registration or certificate of ownership he may thereafter issue therefor.

[R.C.W. 46.12.060 was derived from Rem. Supp. 1947, § 6312-5, part (subsection a).]

SEC. 3. Section 46.12.080, R.C.W., as derived from section 3, chapter 164, Laws of 1947, is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

Any person holding the certificate of license registration for a vehicle in which there has been installed a new or different motor than that with which it was issued certificates of ownership and license registration shall forthwith and within five days after such installation forward and surrender such certificates to the director, together with an application for issue of corrected certificates of ownership and license registration and a fee of one dollar, and a statement of the disposition which was made of the former motor. The possession by any person of any such certificates for a vehicle in which a new or different motor has been installed, after five days following such installation, shall be *prima facie* evidence of a violation of the provisions of this chapter and shall constitute a misdemeanor.

Where  
new motor  
installed.

Time  
within which  
to make  
application  
for corrected  
certificates.

*Prima facie*  
evidence.

[R.C.W. 46.12.080 was derived from Rem. Supp. 1947, § 6312-5, part (subsection c).]

SEC. 4. Section 46.12.170, R.C.W., as derived from section 5, chapter 164, Laws of 1947, is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

If, after a certificate of ownership is issued, a mortgage is placed on the vehicle described therein, the registered owner shall, within ten days there-

Where  
vehicle is  
mortgaged.

**Application.** after, present his application to the director, signed by the mortgagee, to which shall be attached the certificate of license registration and the certificate of ownership last issued covering the vehicle, which application shall be upon a form provided by the director and shall be accompanied by a money order, bank draft, or certified bank check for one dollar.

**Fee.** The director, if he is satisfied that there should be a reissue of the certificates, shall note such change upon his records and issue to the registered owner a new certificate of license registration and to the mortgagee a new certificate of ownership.

**Issuance of new certificates.**

**Payment of contract or mortgage.** Upon the payment in full of a contract or mortgage on a vehicle, the legal owner or mortgagee shall assign the certificate of ownership and deliver it to the registered owner, who shall within ten days thereafter present the certificate of ownership and certificate of license registration to the director accompanied by a fee of one dollar, together with an application for reissue thereof, which application shall be handled by the director as in the case of an original application for a certificate of license registration and certificate of ownership.

**Legal owner or mortgagee to notify director.** Upon the payment in full of a contract or mortgage on a vehicle the legal owner or mortgagee shall immediately notify the director of such fact on a form to be provided by the director.

[Am. Rem. Supp. 1947, § 6312-7.]

**Amendment.** SEC. 5. Section 46.12.180, R.C.W., as derived from section 6, chapter 164, Laws of 1947, is amended to read as follows:

**Lost instruments.** In the event that a certificate of ownership or certificate of license registration is lost, mutilated, or has become illegible, the holder shall immediately file with the director an application for the issuance of a duplicate, the application to be on a form prescribed and furnished by the director, accompanied by a fee of one dollar. Upon receipt of such appli-

cation and fee, the director shall issue a duplicate of the certificate if its loss or mutilation is established by satisfactory proof.

Duplicate issued.

[Am. Rem. Supp. 1947, § 6312-9.]

SEC. 6. Section 46.16.270, R.C.W., as derived from section 13, chapter 164, Laws of 1947, is amended to read as follows:

Amendment.

Upon the loss, defacement, or destruction of both of the vehicle license number plates issued for any vehicle or where they have become so illegible or in such a condition as to be difficult to distinguish, the owner of the vehicle shall make application for new vehicle license number plates upon a form furnished by the director, upon which form it shall be required that the owner, in addition to other requirements, make a complete statement as to the cause of the loss, defacement, or destruction of the original plates, which statement shall be subscribed and sworn to before a notary public or other person authorized to certify to statements upon vehicle license applications. Such application shall be filed with the director or his authorized agent, accompanied by the certificate of license registration of the vehicle and a fee in the amount of four dollars, whereupon the director, or his authorized agent, shall issue new vehicle license number plates to the applicant. Upon the loss, defacement, or destruction of one of the vehicle license number plates issued for any vehicle, application shall be made on a form provided by the director and in the manner above prescribed, except that it shall be accompanied by a fee of two dollars for a vehicle plate and one dollar for a motorcycle plate. Upon the receipt of such application and fee by the director, he shall issue to the applicant a duplicate plate or plates of those lost, defaced, or destroyed. In the event the director has issued license period tabs or a wind shield emblem instead of vehicle license number plates, and upon the loss, deface-

Loss or destruction of license plates.

Application for new plates.

Statement as to cause of loss.

Fee.

Loss of but one plate.

Fee.

Duplicate issued.

Loss of  
license tabs.

ment or destruction of said tabs or wind shield emblem, application shall be made on a form provided by the director and in the same manner as above described, and shall be accompanied by a fee of one dollar for each pair of tabs or for each wind shield emblem, whereupon the director shall issue to the applicant a duplicate pair of tabs or a wind shield emblem to replace those lost, defaced or destroyed.

[Am. Rem. Supp. 1947, § 6312-37.]

New  
section.

SEC. 7. A new section is added to chapter 46.16, R.C.W., to read as follows:

License fee  
for passenger  
cars and  
trailers un-  
der 2,000 lbs.

In lieu of the fee provided in section 46.16.060, private passenger car one or two-wheel trailers of two thousand pounds gross weight or less, may be licensed for the sum of three dollars, but only if such trailers are to be operated upon the public highway by the owners thereof. It is the intention of the legislature that this reduced license shall be issued only as to trailers operated for personal use of the owners and not trailers held for rental to the public.

Limitation.

[Chapter 46.16 R.C.W. was derived from Rem. Supp. 1947, § 6312-15 to 6312-39 as amended.]

[R.C.W. 46.16.060 is Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6312-16.]

Amendment.

SEC. 8. Section 46.16.070, R.C.W., as derived from section 1, chapter 15, Laws of 1950, Extraordinary Session, is amended and divided into sections 9 to 11, inclusive, herein.

Additional  
fees based  
on gross  
weight of  
trucks and  
truck  
tractors.

Sec. 9. In addition to other fees for the licensing of vehicles there shall be paid and collected annually for each motor truck and truck tractor based upon the maximum gross weight thereof as set by the licensee in his application, or otherwise, the following fees: *Provided, however,* That no motor truck or truck tractor having an empty weight of more than four thousand pounds shall be licensed for less than one hundred fifty per cent of the actual empty weight of such vehicle:

Empty  
weight  
more than  
4,000 lbs.

Up to 4,000 lbs.....	\$4.50	Schedule of fees.
4,000 lbs. or more and less than 6,000 lbs.....	\$9.50	
6,000 lbs. or more and less than 8,000 lbs.....	\$15.50	
8,000 lbs. or more and less than 10,000 lbs.....	\$18.50	
10,000 lbs. or more and less than 12,000 lbs.....	\$21.50	
12,000 lbs. or more and less than 14,000 lbs.....	\$25.00	
14,000 lbs. or more and less than 16,000 lbs.....	\$30.00	
16,000 lbs. or more and less than 18,000 lbs.....	\$50.00	
18,000 lbs. or more and less than 20,000 lbs.....	\$70.00	
20,000 lbs. or more and less than 22,000 lbs.....	\$100.00	
22,000 lbs. or more and less than 24,000 lbs.....	\$125.00	
24,000 lbs. or more and less than 26,000 lbs.....	\$160.00	
26,000 lbs. or more and less than 28,000 lbs.....	\$190.00	
28,000 lbs. or more and less than 30,000 lbs.....	\$230.00	
30,000 lbs. or more and less than 32,000 lbs.....	\$285.00	
32,000 lbs. or more and less than 34,000 lbs.....	\$325.00	
34,000 lbs. or more and less than 36,000 lbs.....	\$370.00	

[This section was derived from sec. 1, ch. 15, Laws of 1950, Ex. Sess. (first para. and schedule).]

SEC. 10. In addition to other fees for the licensing of vehicles there shall be paid and collected annually for each trailer, semi-trailer and pole trailer based upon the maximum gross weight thereof as set by the licensee in his application, or otherwise, the following fees: *Provided, however,* That no trailer, semi-trailer or pole trailer having an empty weight of more than four thousand pounds shall be licensed for less than one hundred fifty per cent of the actual empty weight of the vehicle:

Additional  
fees based on  
gross weight  
of trailers,  
semi-trailers,  
and pole  
trailers.

Empty  
weight more  
than 4,000  
lbs.

4,000 lbs. or more and less than 6,000 lbs.....	\$9.50	Schedule of fees.
6,000 lbs. or more and less than 8,000 lbs.....	\$15.50	
8,000 lbs. or more and less than 10,000 lbs.....	\$18.50	
10,000 lbs. or more and less than 12,000 lbs.....	\$21.50	
12,000 lbs. or more and less than 14,000 lbs.....	\$25.00	
14,000 lbs. or more and less than 16,000 lbs.....	\$30.00	
16,000 lbs. or more and less than 18,000 lbs.....	\$50.00	
18,000 lbs. or more and less than 20,000 lbs.....	\$70.00	
20,000 lbs. or more and less than 22,000 lbs.....	\$100.00	
22,000 lbs. or more and less than 24,000 lbs.....	\$125.00	
24,000 lbs. or more and less than 26,000 lbs.....	\$160.00	
26,000 lbs. or more and less than 28,000 lbs.....	\$190.00	
28,000 lbs. or more and less than 30,000 lbs.....	\$230.00	
30,000 lbs. or more and less than 32,000 lbs.....	\$285.00	
32,000 lbs. or more and less than 34,000 lbs.....	\$325.00	
34,000 lbs. or more and less than 36,000 lbs.....	\$370.00	

[This section was derived from sec. 1, ch. 15, Laws of 1950, Ex. Sess. (second para. and schedule).]

Diesel and  
other pow-  
ered vehicles;  
fees, how  
computed.

SEC. 11. As to any such motor truck or truck tractor propelled by steam, electricity, natural gas, diesel oil, butane, or propane the schedule of fees set forth in section 9 shall be increased in every instance by twenty-five per cent thereof and paid in addition to any excise tax upon such substance other than motor vehicle fuel.

[This section is the first proviso of sec. 1, ch. 15, Laws of 1950, Ex. Sess.]

Amendment.

SEC. 12. Section 46.16.090, R.C.W., as derived from section 1, chapter 15, Laws of 1950, Extraordinary Session, is amended to read as follows:

Special  
license for  
motor trucks  
less than  
20,000 lbs.  
owned and  
operated by  
farmers;  
conditions.

Motor trucks of less than twenty thousand pounds may be specially licensed based on the maximum gross weight thereof for fifty per cent of the various amounts set forth in schedule provided in section 46.16.070, when such trucks are owned and operated by farmers, but only if the following condition or conditions exist:

(1) When such trucks are to be used for the transportation of such farmer's own farm, orchard or dairy products from point of production to market, and of supplies to be used on his farm; and/or

(2) When such trucks are to be used for the infrequent or seasonal transportation by one such farmer for another farmer in his neighborhood of products of the farm, orchard or dairy owned by such other farmer from point of production to market, or supplies to be used on such other farm, but only if such transportation for another farmer is for compensation other than money.

Same; special  
form of  
application.

The department shall prepare a special form of application to be used by farmers applying for licenses under this section, which form shall contain a statement to be signed by the farmer to the effect that the vehicle concerned will be used subject to the limitations of this section. The department shall prepare special insignia which shall be placed upon all such vehicles to indicate that the vehicle is spe-

Same; special  
insignia.



cially licensed, or may, in its discretion, substitute a special license plate for such vehicles for such designation.

Any person who operates such a specially licensed vehicle in transportation upon the public highways in violation of the limitations of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Violation.

[R.C.W. 46.16.090 was derived from sec. 1, ch. 15, L. '50, Ex. Sess., part (2nd proviso appearing on p. 31 of temporary 1950 session laws, to end of page).]

[R.C.W. 46.16.070 is secs. 9 and 10 of this act.]

SEC. 13. Section 46.16.120, R.C.W., as derived from section 9, chapter 220, Laws of 1949, is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

In addition to other fees for the licensing of vehicles, there shall be paid and collected annually, for each auto stage and for hire vehicle, except taxi cabs, with seating capacity of six or less the sum of fifteen dollars. For auto stages and for hire vehicles whose seating capacity is over six the following fees, in addition to any regular fees for licensing of vehicles, shall be collected upon the scale weight of each such auto stage and for hire vehicle, plus an average load factor of fifty per cent of seating capacity figured at one hundred fifty pounds per seat: License fees for auto stages.

Up to 6,000 lbs.....	\$9.50	Schedule of fees.
6,000 lbs. or more and less than 8,000 lbs.....	\$15.50	
8,000 lbs. or more and less than 10,000 lbs.....	\$18.50	
10,000 lbs. or more and less than 12,000 lbs.....	\$21.50	
12,000 lbs. or more and less than 14,000 lbs.....	\$25.00	
14,000 lbs. or more and less than 16,000 lbs.....	\$30.00	
16,000 lbs. or more and less than 18,000 lbs.....	\$50.00	
18,000 lbs. or more and less than 20,000 lbs.....	\$70.00	
20,000 lbs. or more and less than 22,000 lbs.....	\$100.00	
22,000 lbs. or more and less than 24,000 lbs.....	\$125.00	
24,000 lbs. or more and less than 26,000 lbs.....	\$160.00	
26,000 lbs. or more and less than 28,000 lbs.....	\$190.00	
28,000 lbs. or more and less than 30,000 lbs.....	\$230.00	
30,000 lbs. or more and less than 32,000 lbs.....	\$285.00	
32,000 lbs. or more and less than 34,000 lbs.....	\$325.00	
34,000 lbs. or more and less than 36,000 lbs.....	\$370.00	

[Am. Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6312-18.]

New  
section.

SEC. 14. A new section is added to chapter 46.16, R.C.W., to read as follows:

Additional  
fee for auto  
stages.

In addition to the fees required by section 13, operators of auto stages with seating capacity over six shall pay quarterly, at the time they file gross earning returns with the public service commission, the sum of fifteen cents for each one hundred vehicle miles operated by each auto stage over the public highways of this state: *Provided*, That in the case of each auto stage propelled by steam, electricity, natural gas, diesel oil, butane or propane, the payment required hereunder shall be twenty cents per one hundred miles of such operation. The commission shall transmit all such sums so collected to the state treasurer, who shall deposit the same in the motor vehicle fund. Any person failing to make any payment required by this section shall be subject to a penalty of one hundred per cent of the payment due hereunder, in addition to any penalty provided for failure to submit a quarterly report. Any penalties so collected shall be credited to the public service revolving fund.

Auto stages  
propelled by  
Diesel  
oil, etc.

Penalty for  
failure  
to make  
payment.

[See note to sec. 7.]

Amendment.

SEC. 15. Section 46.16.130, R.C.W., as derived from section 11, chapter 220, Laws of 1949, is amended to read as follows:

Registration  
after March  
31st; quar-  
terly reduc-  
tion schedule.

Whenever an application is made for a license on a motor truck, trailer, tractor, semi-trailer, for hire vehicle, bus or auto stage subsequent to March thirty-first of any calendar year, the license fees based on gross weight or seating capacity of such vehicles shall be computed as follows:

Upon motor vehicles above described licensed in this state after March thirty-first of any year, but before July first, the license fees imposed by this section for such year shall be reduced by one-fourth thereof; upon vehicles licensed in this state after June thirtieth of any year, but before October first,

the license fees shall be reduced by one-half thereof; and upon vehicles licensed in this state after September thirtieth of any year the license fees shall be reduced by three-fourths thereof: *Provided, That* such reductions shall not apply to special permits. Limitation.

[Am. Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6312-18a.]

SEC. 16. A new section is added to chapter 46.16, R.C.W., to read as follows: New section.

When the gross weight license fee applied for on any vehicle exceeds twenty thousand pounds, licenses for motor trucks, trailers, tractors, pole trailers, or semi-trailers may be purchased for a three-months period for one-fourth the regular fee at the beginning of any calendar month. For each fee so paid other than at the time of payment of the basic license fee, an additional fee of one dollar shall be charged by the director. The director is authorized to establish rules and regulations relative to the issuance and display of certificates or insignia, which shall state the months by name for which the vehicle is licensed. Gross weight license fee; purchase for 3-month period.  
  
Rules and regulations.

No vehicle licensed under the provisions of this section shall be operated over the public highways unless the owner or operator thereof within ten days after the expiration of any such three-month period apply for, and pay the required fee for, a license for an additional three-month period, or for the remainder of the year. Any person who operates any such vehicle upon the public highways after the expiration of said ten days, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and in addition shall be required to purchase a gross weight license for the vehicle involved at the fee covering an entire year's license for operation thereof, less the fees for any period or periods of the year already paid. If, within five days thereafter, no license for a full year has been purchased as required aforesaid, the Washington state patrol, county sheriff or city police shall impound such vehicle in such manner as may be directed for such Time within which to secure license for additional period.  
  
Violation.  
  
Penalty.  
  
Impounding, when.

cases by the chief of the Washington state patrol, until such requirement is met.

[See note to sec. 7.]

Amendment. SEC. 17. Section 46.16.140, R.C.W., as derived from section 25, chapter 188, Laws of 1937, is amended and divided into sections 18 and 19 herein.

Operation of certain vehicles in excess of licensed weight a misdemeanor

SEC. 18. Any person who operates, or causes, permits, or suffers to be operated upon a public highway of this state any auto stage, motor truck, trailer, pole trailer, or semi-trailer, with passengers, or with a maximum gross weight, in excess of that for which the vehicle is licensed shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

New maximum gross weight deemed set; additional license.

Any person who operates or causes to be operated upon a public highway of this state any motor truck, trailer, pole trailer, or semi-trailer with a maximum gross weight in excess of the maximum gross weight for which the vehicle is licensed shall be deemed to have set a new maximum gross weight and shall, in addition to any penalties otherwise provided, be required to purchase an additional license for the additional gross weight and any such person who fails to secure such additional license shall be guilty of a misdemeanor: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to for hire vehicles or auto stages operating principally within cities and towns: *Provided further*, That no such person may be permitted or required to purchase the additional license upon a gross weight which would exceed the maximum gross weight allowed by law.

Exception.

Limitation.

[This section was derived from R.R.S. § 6312-25, part (down to and including the second proviso).]

Penalties.

Fine.

SEC. 19. Any person violating any of the provisions of section 18 shall, upon a first conviction, pay a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars; upon a second conviction pay a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than fifty dollars, and in addition the court may sus-

pend the certificate of license registration of his vehicle for not more than thirty days; upon a third and subsequent conviction pay a fine of not less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars, and in addition the court shall suspend the certificate of license registration of the vehicle for not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days.

Suspension  
of certificate  
of license  
registration.

Upon ordering the suspension of any certificate of license registration, the court or judge shall forthwith secure such certificate and mail it to the director.

[This section was derived from the remainder of R.R.S. § 6312-25 (see note to sec. 18, *supra*).]

SEC. 20. Section 46.44.020, R.C.W., as derived from section 48, chapter 189, Laws of 1937, is amended to read as follows:

Amendment.

It shall be unlawful for any vehicle unladen or with load to exceed a height of twelve feet and six inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands. This section shall not apply to authorized emergency vehicles or repair equipment of a public utility engaged in reasonably necessary operation. The provisions of this section shall not relieve the owner or operator of a vehicle or combination of vehicles from the exercise of due care in determining that sufficient vertical clearance is provided upon the public highways where such vehicle or combination of vehicles is being operated, and no liability shall attach to the state or to any county, city, town, or other political subdivision by reason of any damage or injury to persons or property by reason of the existence of any structure or otherwise where the vertical clearance above the roadway is less than twelve feet six inches where signs are posted to indicate vertical clearance of less than twelve feet six inches. An additional four inches in height is lawful as to a vehicle over and above such twelve feet six inches when such vehicle is equipped with a tire size of over ten inches in width and twenty-two

Height  
limitations.

Exceptions.

Vertical  
clearance;  
due care.

Same; liability of state and political subdivisions.

Vehicles;  
additional  
4 inches  
authorized,  
when.

inches in rim diameter and larger, notwithstanding the liability provided for herein.

[Am. R.R.S. § 6360-48.]

**Amendment.** SEC. 21. Section 46.44.030, R.C.W., as derived from section 1, chapter 221, Laws of 1949, is amended and divided into sections 22 through 24 herein.

**Length limitations; single vehicle.**

**Same; combination of vehicles.**

**Exceptions; transport of structural members by public utilities.**

**Clearance and marker lamps.**

**Combination limited to two vehicles.**

**What deemed two vehicles.**

SEC. 22. It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways of this state any vehicle having an overall length, with or without load, in excess of thirty-five feet, except that an auto stage equipped with three axles shall not exceed an overall length, inclusive of front and rear bumpers, of forty feet, but the operation of any such auto stage upon the public highways shall be limited as determined by the director of highways. It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways any combination of vehicles which, with or without load, has an overall length in excess of sixty feet, or any combination of vehicles containing any vehicle of which the permanent structure has an overall length in excess of forty feet. Said length limitations shall not apply to vehicles transporting poles, pipe, machinery or other objects of a structural nature which cannot be dismembered and operated by a public utility when required for emergency repair of public service facilities or properties but in respect to night transportation every such vehicle and load thereon shall be equipped with a sufficient number of clearance lamps on both sides and marker lamps upon the extreme ends of any projecting load to clearly mark the dimensions of such load.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-49, part (1st para.).]

SEC. 23. It is unlawful for any person to operate upon the public highways of this state any combination of vehicles consisting of more than two vehicles. For the purposes of this section a truck tractor-semi-trailer and/or pole trailer combination will be con-

sidered as two vehicles but the addition of another axle to the tractor of a truck tractor-semi-trailer and/or pole trailer combination in such a way that it supports a proportional share of the load of the semi-trailer and/or pole trailer shall not be deemed a separate vehicle but for all purposes shall be considered a part of the truck tractor. For the purposes of this section a converter gear used in converting a semi-trailer to a full trailer shall not be deemed a separate vehicle but for all purposes shall be considered a part of the trailer.

Not deemed separate vehicle; additional axle to tractor.

Same; converter gear.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-49, part (2nd para.).]

SEC. 24. The load upon any vehicle operated alone upon the public highways of this state, or the load upon the front vehicle of a combination of vehicles, shall not extend more than three feet beyond the front wheels of such vehicle, or the front bumper, if equipped with front bumper.

Limitations on load extensions.

No vehicle shall be operated upon the public highways with any part of the permanent structure or load extending in excess of fifteen feet beyond the center of the last axle of such vehicle.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-49, part (3rd and 4th para.).]

SEC. 25. Section 46.44.040, R.C.W., as derived from section 2, chapter 221, Laws of 1949, is amended and divided into sections 26 through 29, inclusive, herein.

Amendment.

SEC. 26. (a) It is unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways with a gross weight including load upon any one axle thereof in excess of eighteen thousand pounds.

Maximum axle and gross weights; one axle.

It is unlawful to operate any one axle semi-trailer upon the public highways with a gross weight including load upon such one axle in excess of eighteen thousand pounds.

Same; one axle semi-trailer.

It is unlawful to operate any truck or truck-tractor upon the public highways of this state sup-

Same; two axle truck or truck-tractor.

ported upon two axles with a gross weight including load in excess of twenty-eight thousand pounds.

Same; two axle trailer, semi-trailer, or pole trailer.

It is unlawful to operate any trailer, semi-trailer or pole trailer upon the public highways supported upon two axles with a gross weight including load in excess of thirty-two thousand pounds.

Same; any vehicle, three axles.

It is unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways supported upon three axles or more with a gross weight including load in excess of thirty-six thousand pounds.

Specifications subject to braking requirements.

(b) The maximum axle and gross weights specified in subsection (a) above are subject to the braking requirements set up for the service brakes upon any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles as provided by law.

Limitations on axle spacing.

(c) It is unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways equipped with two axles spaced less than seven feet apart, unless the two axles are so constructed and mounted in such a manner to provide oscillation between the two axles and that either one of the two axles will not at any one time carry more than the maximum gross weight allowed for one axle or two axles specified in subsection (a) above.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-50, part (para. a, b, and c).]

Ratio of weight to tires.

SEC. 27. Subject to the maximum gross weights specified in subsection (a) of section 26 above, it is unlawful to operate any vehicle upon the public highways with a gross weight, including load, upon any tire concentrated upon the surface of the highway in excess of five hundred pounds per inch width of such tire. For the purpose of this section, the width of tire in case of solid rubber or hollow center cushion tires, so long as the use thereof may be permitted by the law, shall be measured between the flanges of the rim. For the purpose of this section, the width of tires in case of pneumatic tires shall be



the cross-section diameter measured from the inside of the widest point when inflated to the recommended inflation point and without load thereon. In lieu of this method of measurement the tire shall not carry any load in excess of the manufacturer's recommended carrying capacity.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-50, part (para. d).]

SEC. 28. Subject to the maximum axle and gross weights specified in subsection (a) of section 26 above, it is unlawful to operate any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross weight, including load, on any group of axles of a vehicle or combination of vehicles in excess of that set forth in the following table:

Maximum  
gross load.

*Wheelbase of Any Group of Axles  
of a Vehicle or Combination*

<i>of Vehicles (feet)</i>	<i>Maximum Gross Load</i>
3' 6" .....	32,000
4 .....	32,000
5 .....	32,000
6 .....	32,000
7 .....	32,000
8 .....	32,610
9 .....	33,580
10 .....	34,550
11 .....	35,550
12 .....	36,830
13 .....	38,350
14 .....	39,870
15 .....	41,400
16 .....	42,930
17 .....	44,459
18 .....	46,000
19 .....	47,000
20 .....	48,000
21 .....	49,000
22 .....	50,000
23 .....	51,340
24 .....	52,670
25 .....	54,000
26 .....	55,100
27 .....	56,200
28 .....	57,400
29 .....	58,500

30	59,500
31	60,300
32	61,140
33	61,710
34	62,280
35	62,860
36	63,430
37	64,000
38	64,500
39	65,000
40	65,500
41	66,000
42	66,500
43	67,000
44	67,500
45	68,000
46	68,500
47	69,000
48	69,500
49	70,000
50	70,500
51	71,000
52	71,500
53	72,000
54	72,000
55	72,000
56	72,000
57	72,000

When inches are involved: Under six inches take lower; six inches and over take higher.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-50, part (subsection (e) through the sentence following the schedule).]

Violations.

Penalties.  
Fine.

Suspension  
of certificate  
of license  
registration.

SEC. 29. Any person violating any of the provisions of sections 26 to 28, inclusive, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon first conviction thereof shall be fined not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than fifty dollars; upon second conviction thereof shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than one hundred dollars; and upon a third or subsequent conviction shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars. The court may suspend the certificate of license registration of the vehicle or combination of vehicles upon the second conviction and the court shall suspend the certificate of license registration of the vehicle or combination of vehicles

upon a third or subsequent conviction as to the same vehicle or combination of vehicles.

Any person convicted of violating any posted limitations of a highway or section of highway shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars and the court shall in addition thereto suspend the operator's driver's license for not less than thirty days. Whenever the operator's driver's license and/or the certificate of license registration are suspended under the provisions of this section the judge shall secure such certificates and immediately forward the same to the director of licenses with information concerning the suspension thereof.

Violation of posted limitations; fine, suspension of operator's license.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-50, part (last para. of section).]

SEC. 30. A new section is added to chapter 46.44, R.C.W., to read as follows:

New section.

In addition to the limitations of sections 26 to 28, inclusive, if the gross axle weight is not more than five hundred pounds in excess of the maximum gross axle weight for one axle, and if the gross weight of two axles spaced less than seven feet apart is not more than one thousand pounds in excess of the maximum gross weight for two axles spaced less than seven feet apart, and if the gross weight of any group of axles is not more than fifteen hundred pounds in excess of the maximum gross weight for any group of axles according to the wheelbase spacing of the group of axles as shown in the maximum gross load table of section 28, and if the maximum gross weight of the combination of vehicles is not more than two thousand pounds in excess of the maximum gross weight of the combination of vehicles, when fully licensed as permitted by law, the arresting officer may, within his discretion, permit the operator to proceed with his vehicle or vehicles in combination without penalty or the removal of the excess weight, but this discretionary action by the arresting officer shall in no manner relieve the

Weight discrepancies in cargo; arresting officer may permit vehicle to proceed, when.

Operator not relieved of penalties and fees.

Scale weight; *prima facie* evidence.

Legislative intent.

Rules and regulations.

New section.

Three axle truck-tractor and two-axle pole trailer combination; allowable variation in wheel base length.

Weight discrepancies; arresting officer may permit vehicle to proceed, when.

operator of the vehicle or combination of vehicles of any penalty or fee imposed by this act for such excess weight. For the purposes of determining gross weights the actual scale weight taken by the arresting officer shall be *prima facie* evidence of such total gross weight of vehicle or combination thereof.

It being the intention of the legislature to recognize that occasional weight discrepancies in cargo will occur, and to provide the arresting officer with authority and discretion to determine the same; but to prevent the habitual and consistent loading of vehicles above the licensed gross weight of the vehicle provided for in this act.

The chief of the state patrol, with the advice of the director of highways, may make reasonable rules and regulations to aid in the enforcement of the provisions of this section.

[Chapter 46.44 R.C.W. was derived from R.R.S. §§ 6360-47 to 6360-57 incl. as amended.]

SEC. 31. A new section is added to chapter 46.44, R.C.W., to read as follows:

In addition to the limitations of sections 26 to 28, inclusive, a three-axle truck tractor and a two-axle pole trailer combination engaged in the operation of hauling logs, shall have an allowable variation in wheelbase length of six feet for the distance between the first and last axle of the vehicle in combination which has a wheelbase overall length of thirty-seven feet or more and if the gross axle weight is not more than nine hundred pounds in excess of the maximum gross axle weight for one axle, and if the gross weight of two axles spaced less than seven feet apart is not more than sixteen hundred pounds in excess of the maximum gross axle weight for two axles spaced less than seven feet apart, and if the maximum gross weight of the combination of vehicles is not more than three thousand four hundred pounds in excess of the maximum gross weight of the com-

bination of vehicles, when fully licensed as permitted by law, the arresting officer may, within his discretion, permit the operator to proceed with his vehicle or vehicles in combination without penalty or the removal of the excess weight, but this discretionary action by the arresting officer shall in no manner relieve the operator of the combination of vehicles of any penalty or fee imposed by this act for such excess weight. For the purpose of determining gross weights the actual scale weight taken by the arresting officer, shall be *prima facie* evidence of such total gross weight of vehicles in combination thereof.

Operator not relieved of penalties and fees.

Scale weight; *prima facie* evidence.

It being the intention of the legislature to recognize that occasional weight discrepancies in cargo will occur, and to provide the arresting officer with authority and discretion to determine the same; but to prevent the habitual and consistent loading of vehicles above the licensed gross weight of the vehicle provided for in this act.

Legislative intent.

The chief of the state patrol, with the advice of the director of highways, may make reasonable rules and regulations to aid in the enforcement of the provisions of this section.

Rules and regulations.

[See note to sec. 30.]

SEC. 32. There is added a new section to chapter 46.44, R.C.W., to read as follows.

New section.

In addition to any penalty incurred under the provisions of this act, the owner or operator of any motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles, as payment for excess weights, over and above those set forth in sections 30 and 31, shall pay two cents per pound for each pound of excess weight up to five thousand pounds; if such excess weight is five thousand pounds and not in excess of ten thousand pounds, the rate per pound shall be three cents per pound for each pound of excess weight; and if the excess weight is ten thousand pounds or over the

Excess weight; schedule of payments.

rate shall be four cents per pound for each pound of such excess weight.

Legislative  
intent.

It is intended by this section to provide a method of compensation for the state for any use of the highways beyond the designed capacity thereof. The court, in addition to any penalty assessed, shall order such payment to be made, and in the event the owner or operator does not make payment or arrange to make payment as required and ordered by the court, the court shall suspend the certificate of license registration of the vehicle or vehicles in combination concerned, until the owner or operator does so.

Certificate of  
license  
registration;  
suspension  
by court.

"Excess  
weight."

For the purposes of this section "excess weight" shall mean that poundage in excess of the maximum licensed gross weight plus the weights allowed by sections 30 and 31 of the vehicle or of the vehicles in combination.

Sums col-  
lected de-  
posited in  
motor vehicle  
fund.

Any sums of money collected under the provisions of this section shall be transmitted to the state treasurer and he shall deposit the same in the motor vehicle fund.

[See note to sec. 30.]

Amendment.

SEC. 33. Section 46.44.090, R.C.W., as derived from section 7, chapter 221, Laws of 1949, is amended and divided into sections 34 to 43, inclusive, herein.

Special per-  
mits for  
operation of  
vehicle ex-  
ceeding size,  
weight,  
or load  
maximums.

SEC. 34. The director of highways with respect to primary and secondary state highways and local authorities with respect to public highways under their jurisdiction may, upon application in writing and good cause being shown therefor, issue a special permit in writing authorizing the applicant to operate or move a vehicle or combination of vehicles of a size, weight of vehicle or load exceeding the maximum specified in this chapter or otherwise not in conformity with the provisions of this chapter upon any public highway under the jurisdiction of the

authority granting such permit and for the maintenance of which such authority is responsible.

No overweight permit shall be issued to any vehicle or combination of vehicles unless such vehicle or combination of vehicles is licensed for the maximum gross weight allowed by law.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-55, part (1st and 2nd para.).]

SEC. 35. No special permit shall be issued for movement on any primary or secondary state highway or route of state primary or state secondary highway within the limits of any city or town where the gross weight, including load, exceeds twenty-two thousand pounds on a single axle or forty-one thousand pounds on any group of axles having a wheelbase between the first and last axle thereof of less than ten feet: *Provided*, That a tolerance of two thousand pounds may be allowed on any group of axles having a wheelbase between the first and last axle thereof of less than ten feet when the permit is being issued for the maximum overload permitted under this section: *Provided further*, That the tolerance shall not be allowed unless specifically granted on the face of the permit.

Special permit; limitations on gross weight in cities or towns.

Tolerance.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-55, part (3rd para.).]

SEC. 36. No special permit shall be issued for movement on any two lane state highway outside the limits of any city or town where the overall width of load exceeds fourteen feet, on any three lane state highway where the overall width of load exceeds twenty-two feet, or on any four lane state highway where the overall width of load exceeds thirty-two feet: *Provided*, That (1) these width limitations may be exceeded on state highways where the latest available traffic figures show that the highway or section of highway carries less than one hundred vehicles per day; (2) permits may be issued for weights and width of vehicles in excess

Special permit; limitation on widths.

Exceptions: less than 100 vehicles per day.

Highways  
designed for  
excesses.

War emer-  
gency.

Farm ma-  
chinery.

of the preceding limitations on highways or sections of highways which have been designed and constructed for weights and widths in excess of such limitations; (3) these limitations may be rescinded during a war emergency when certification is made by military officials as to the necessity for such action; (4) these limitations shall not apply to farmers moving farm machinery between farms during daylight hours if the movement does not pass along and upon any primary or secondary state highway for a distance greater than twenty miles, if properly patrolled and flagged.

The applicant for any special permit shall specifically describe the vehicle or vehicles and load to be operated or moved and the particular state highways for which permit to operate is requested and whether such permit is requested for a single trip or for continuous operation.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-55, part (4th and 5th para.).]

Issuance or  
withholding  
of special  
permits;  
powers of  
director or  
local au-  
thority.

SEC. 37. The director of highways or local authority is authorized to issue or withhold such special permit at his or its discretion; or, if such permit is issued, to limit the number of trips, or to establish seasonal or other time limitations within which the vehicle described may be operated on the public highways indicated, or otherwise to limit or prescribe conditions of operation of such vehicle or vehicles when necessary to assure against undue damage to the road foundation, surfaces or structures or safety of traffic and may require such undertaking or other security as may be deemed necessary to compensate for injury to any roadway or road structure.

Undertaking  
or security.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-55, part (6th para.).]

Special per-  
mit fees.

SEC. 38. The following fees, in addition to the regular license and tonnage fees, shall be paid for all movements under special permit made upon state



primary or secondary highways. All funds collected shall be forwarded to the state treasury and shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund:

All overlegal loads, except overweight, single trip. . . .	\$4.00
Continuous operation of overlegal loads having either over-width or over-height features only for a period not to exceed thirty days. . . . .	\$25.00
Continuous operation of overlegal loads having over-length only for a period not to exceed thirty days. . .	\$10.00
Continuous operation of an overlegal vehicle as a pilot model and/or semi-trailer as a pilot model for a period of one year. . . . .	\$50.00
Continuous operation of combination of vehicles composed of more than two vehicles single trip. . . . .	\$4.00
Continuous operation of a combination of vehicles composed of more than two vehicles—thirty days. .	\$10.00
Continuous operation of a combination of vehicles composed of more than two vehicles, including issuance up to and including four permits to the same operator for a period of six months. . . . .	\$40.00
Continuous operation of a combination of vehicles composed of more than two vehicles, including issuance up to and including six permits to the same operator for a period of one year. . . . .	\$60.00

#### OVERWEIGHT FEE SCHEDULE.

<i>Weight over that allowed by statute</i>	<i>Miles traveled over</i>		
	<i>50 miles or less</i>	<i>50 miles but less than 200 miles</i>	<i>200 miles or more</i>
7,000 pounds or less. . . .	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$15.00
7,001 to 13,999 pounds overlegal . . . .	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$30.00
14,000 to 19,999 pounds overlegal . . . .	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$45.00
20,000 pounds or more overlegal . . . . .	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$150.00

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-55, part (7th para. through the fee schedule).]

SEC. 39. An additional two thousand pounds gross load over and above the maximum gross load may be allowed as to certain vehicles when fully licensed as required by sections 26 through 28 for three-axle trucks, two-axle trailers and three-axle trailers, also either an additional two thousand pounds or an additional four thousand pounds gross load for a three-axle truck-tractor over and above the maximum

Special permit; additional gross load allowable on certain highways or sections thereof.

gross load, when fully licensed as permitted in sections 26 through 28 may be eligible for increased weights by special permit for operations on designated highways or section of highways as specified in a special permit to be issued by the director of highways based upon his determination that such designated highways or section of highways are capable of withstanding such allowable increased gross load. The fee for such additional gross weight for a twelve-month period shall be at a rate of fifty dollars for each two thousand pounds issued.

Fee.

Fees not applicable to government vehicles.

The fees levied in sections 38 and 39 shall not apply to any vehicles owned and operated by the state of Washington; any county within the state or any municipality within the state; or by the federal government.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-55, part (8th and 11th para.).]

Basis for determining fees.

SEC. 40. In determining fees according to section 38, mileage on state primary and secondary highways shall be as determined from the planning survey records of the department of highways and the gross weight of the vehicle or vehicles, including load, shall be as declared by the applicant. Overweight on which fees shall be paid will be gross loadings in excess of loadings authorized by law or axle loadings in excess of loadings authorized by law, whichever is the greater. Loads which are overweight and oversize shall be charged the fee for the overweight permit without additional fees being assessed for the oversize features.

Fees; payable to political body; when.

Fees established in sections 38 and 39 shall be paid to the political body issuing the permit if the entire movement is to be confined to roads, streets or highways for which that political body is responsible, when a movement involves a combination of state highways, county roads and/or city streets the fee shall be paid to the director of highways.

Same; payable to director of highways, when.

A permit will not be required from city or town authorities for a move involving a combination of city or town streets and state highways when the move through a city or town is being confined to the route of the state highway. When a move involves a combination of county roads and city streets the fee shall be paid to the county authorities, but the fee shall not be collected nor the county permit issued until valid permits are presented showing the city or town authorities approve of the move in question.

Permit not required from city or town, when.

Fee; payable to county authorities, when.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-55, part (9th and 10th para.).]

SEC. 41. Any person who misrepresents the size or weight of any load in obtaining a special permit or does not follow the requirements and conditions of the special permit is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than fifty dollars or more than one hundred dollars.

Special permit; misrepresentations; non-compliance with conditions; penalty.

Any person who operates any overlegal vehicle without first obtaining a special permit is guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars.

Operation of overlegal vehicle without permit; penalty.

Every special permit issued hereunder shall be carried in the vehicle or combination of vehicles to which it refers and shall be open to inspection by any peace officer or authorized agent of any authority granting such permit.

Special permits carried in vehicle.

[This section was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-55, part (last 3 para.).]

SEC. 42. Section 43.27.060, R.C.W., as derived from section 3, chapter 220, Laws of 1949, is amended to read as follows:

The director shall establish and provide for the operation and maintenance within the department of highways of a personnel merit system for the employment, classification, salaries, promotion, demotion, suspension, transfer, layoff, and discharge of its appointive officers and employees on the sole basis of

Vetoed.

merit and fitness and without regard to political influence or affiliation. The director shall have power to adopt the type or pattern of merit system best suited to its size and conditions. The provisions hereof shall apply only to engineering, supervisory, technical, accounting, property acquiring, traffic inspection, and clerical employees.

Vetoed.

The body created for the purpose of administering such personnel system shall have power to make, amend and repeal rules and regulations essential in carrying out the provisions of this section. All such rules and regulations shall become effective if not disapproved by the director within sixty days after their promulgation. Such rules and regulations shall provide:

(1) That the person to be discharged or demoted must be presented with the reasons [reasons] for such discharge or demotion specifically stated; and

(2) That he shall be allowed a reasonable time in which to reply thereto in writing.

The reasons and the reply shall be filed as a public record with the director.

[R.C.W. 43.27.060 was derived from Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6400-3h.]

Amendment.

SEC. 43. Section 82.36.020, R.C.W., as derived from section 5, chapter 58, Laws of 1933, as last amended by section 7, chapter 220, Laws of 1949, is amended to read as follows:

Motor vehicle fuel excise tax.

Every distributor shall pay, in addition to any other taxes provided by law, an excise tax to the treasurer of this state of six and one-half cents for each gallon of motor vehicle fuel sold, distributed or used by him in the state: *Provided*, That under such regulations as the director may prescribe sales or distribution of motor vehicle fuel may be made by one licensed distributor to another licensed distributor free of the tax. In the computation of the tax, one-quarter of one per cent of the net gallonage

Sales from one distributor to another; tax free.

otherwise taxable shall be deducted by the distributor before computing the tax due, on account of the losses sustained through handling. The tax herein imposed shall be collected and paid to the state but once in respect to any motor vehicle fuel. Bills should be rendered by distributors to all purchasers of inflammable petroleum products of fifty gallons or more, and upon request to all purchasers of smaller lots. In the case of sales of motor vehicle fuels, the bills shall contain a statement that the distributor has assumed the tax thereon; and in other cases the bills shall contain a statement that the purchaser is responsible for the tax, if the products are to be used for the purpose of operating a motor vehicle. The net gallonage, for purposes of tax distribution, shall be computed after deducting three-fourths of one per cent therefrom. The proceeds of the amount deducted shall be paid into the motor vehicle fund. The proceeds of the net gallonage remaining shall be distributed as follows: Of the six and one-half cents collected as herein provided, five cents shall be distributed between the state, cities and counties under the provisions of 46.68.090 and 46.68.100, and one-quarter cent shall be distributed to the counties directly and allocated between them as provided by 46.68.120, and one and one-quarter cents shall be paid directly into the motor vehicle fund.

Handling  
loss allow-  
able.

Distributors;  
bills to  
purchasers.

Distribution  
of proceeds  
of tax.

[Am. Rem. Supp. 1949, § 8327-5.]

[R.C.W. 46.68.090 is Rem. Supp. 1943, § 6600-1d; 46.68.100 is Rem. Supp. 1943, § 6600-1e; 46.68.120 is Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6600-2a.]

SEC. 44. The joint fact-finding committee on highways, streets and bridges, created by chapter 111, Laws of 1947, and continued in chapter 213, Laws of 1949, is hereby continued for another biennium. It shall consist of six senators to be appointed by the president of the senate and six members of the house of representatives to be appointed by the

Joint fact-  
finding com-  
mittee on  
highways,  
streets and  
bridges con-  
tinued for  
biennium.

speaker thereof. One of the senate members and one of the house members shall be appointed from the area included within each of the six state highway districts. The list of appointees shall be submitted before the close of the 1951 session for confirmation of the senate members, by the senate, and the house members, by the house. Vacancies occurring shall be filled by the appointing authority.

Same;  
powers  
and duties.

SEC. 45. The committee is authorized and directed to continue its studies and for that purpose shall have all the powers and duties set forth in such acts and section 46. The members of the committee shall be entitled to reimbursement of their expenses as set forth in section 5, chapter 111, Laws of 1947, except that any travel expense shall be reimbursed at the rate of seven cents per mile.

Same;  
expenses of  
members.

Same;  
further  
powers.

SEC. 46. The committee continued by section 44 in addition to the powers and duties set forth in the acts referred to therein, is further authorized and directed to:

Participate in  
activities of  
"western  
interstate  
committee  
on highway  
policy  
problems."

(1) Participate in the activities of the "Western Interstate Committee on Highway Policy Problems" of the eleven western states in its study of highway problems upon a state and regional basis, and co-operate with and contribute to any study made by such committee of highway-user cost allocations in order to bring about equity and uniformity in this state and in the eleven western states in highway-user taxes and fees; and participate in or make joint studies with relation to the design and construction of highways and the use and cost thereof.

Review state  
highway  
system.

(2) Enter upon a review of the state highway system with particular consideration of the usefulness of all highways that are a part of the state system, any need for changes in the state system by additions or deletions and the relationship between the state system and county roads and city streets,

but any such study shall not have as its purpose the increase of the total present mileage of either primary or secondary highways;

(3) Participate with the department of highways in any study which may be undertaken of the relationship of motor vehicle weights and highway design and costs.

Study motor vehicle weight problems.

(4) Participate with the department of highways in studies with relation to the construction, designation and testing of natural resource roads.

Participate in natural resource road activities.

SEC. 47. The director of highways is authorized to make and enter into agreements with the federal government or any state or group of states or agencies thereof, or any non-profit association, on a joint or cooperative basis, to study, analyze or test the effects of weight on highway construction. Such studies or tests may be made either by designating existing highways or the construction of test strips including natural resource roads to the end that a proper solution of the many problems connected with the imposition on highways of motor vehicle weights may be determined.

Director of highways; agreements for study of weight effects.

Such studies may include the determination of values to be assigned various highway-user groups according to their gross weight or use.

SEC. 48. In addition to all other fees prescribed by law, there shall be paid for each truck, trailer, truck-tractor, auto stage, or for hire vehicle the following amounts at the time of the payment of the registration fee as provided by law:

Additional fees.

Schedule.

For each truck under 12,000 lbs.....	\$ .25
For each truck over 12,000 lbs. and under 20,000 lbs.....	.50
For each truck over 20,000 lbs.....	1.00
For each trailer 4,000 lbs. to 12,000 lbs.....	.25
For each trailer 12,000 lbs. to 20,000 lbs.....	.50
For each trailer, semi-trailer or pole trailer over 20,000 lbs.	1.00
For each diesel truck.....	2.00
For each auto stage.....	1.00
For each for hire vehicle over 4,000 lbs.....	.50

Collected  
1952, 1953,  
1954 only.

Use.

Such fees shall be collected for the calendar years 1952, 1953, and 1954, only and shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund, and shall be used by the joint fact-finding committee on highways, streets and bridges and the director of highways to help defray the costs of special highway use and weight studies and tests including natural resource roads as provided for in this act and for other necessary expenses of such committee.

Emergency.

SEC. 49. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions and sections 1 to 6, inclusive, 15 to 42, inclusive, and 44 to 47, inclusive, shall take effect immediately; section 43 shall take effect on April 1, 1951; sections 7 to 13, inclusive, and section 48, on November 15, 1951; and section 14 on January 1, 1952.

Passed the House March 2, 1951.

Passed the Senate March 8, 1951.

Approved by the Governor March 20, 1951, with the exception of section 42 which is vetoed.