

CHAPTER 56.

[H. B. 109.]

MOTOR VEHICLES.

AN ACT relating to motor vehicles, the definitions thereof, traffic signals controlling the same and the equipment thereof; amending chapter 46.04, R.C.W., by adding a new section thereto, and amending sections 46.36.030 and 46.60.230, R.C.W.

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

SECTION 1. There is added a new section to chapter 46.04, R.C.W., to read as follows: New section.

“Pole trailer” means every vehicle without motive power designed to be drawn by another vehicle and attached to the towing vehicle by means of a reach, or pole, or by being boomed or otherwise secured to the towing vehicle, and ordinarily used for transporting long or irregular shaped loads such as poles, pipes, logs or structural members capable, generally, of sustaining themselves as beams between the supporting connections.

“Pole trailer.”

[Ch. 46.04 R.C.W. is derived from R.R.S. §§ 6312-1 and 6360-1.]

SEC. 2. Section 46.36.030, R.C.W., as derived from section 34, chapter 189, Laws of 1937, is amended to read as follows: Amendment.

Every new motor vehicle, trailer, and semi-trailer sold in this state after January 1, 1938, and operated upon the public highways shall be equipped with foot or service brakes upon all wheels of at least two axles of every such vehicle, except any bicycle or motorcycle, and except that any such trailer or semi-trailer of less than two thousand pounds gross weight, including load, need not be equipped with brakes.

New vehicles, trailers, etc., sold after Jan. 1, 1938; brakes required.

Every motor vehicle or combination of motor-drawn vehicles shall be capable, at all times and under all conditions of loading, of being stopped on a dry, smooth, level road free from loose material,

Stopping distances.

upon application of the service brake, within the distances specified below, or shall be capable of being decelerated at a sustained rate corresponding to these distances:

Deceleration rate.

	<i>Feet to stop from 20 miles per hour</i>	<i>Deceleration in feet per second per second</i>
Vehicles or combinations of vehicles having brakes on all wheels.....	30	14
Vehicles or combinations of vehicles not having brakes on all wheels...	40	10.7

Standards apply to loaded vehicles.

All braking distances and rates of deceleration specified in this section shall apply to all vehicles mentioned, whether such vehicles are not loaded or are loaded to the maximum capacity permitted under this title. All brakes shall be maintained in good working order and shall be so adjusted as to operate as equally as practicable with respect to the wheels on opposite sides of the vehicles. It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle with the brakes out of adjustment to the extent that the unequal application between opposite sides of the vehicle will cause the vehicle to swerve, pull to the side, or otherwise affect the operator's control.

Brake adjustment.

Unlawful to operate vehicle with brakes out of adjustment.

Brakes other than foot brake, standards.

The means of applying the brakes other than the foot brake shall be capable of holding any motor vehicle or combination of vehicles stationary upon any plus or minus grade upon which the same is to be operated and in any event upon a plus or minus grade of at least five per cent.

[Am. R.R.S. § 6360-34 (last 4 para.).]

Amendment.

SEC. 3. Section 46.60.230, R.C.W., as derived from section 98, chapter 189, Laws of 1937, as last amended by section 7, chapter 196, Laws of 1949, is amended to read as follows:

Traffic control signals.

Whenever, at any point, traffic is controlled by traffic control signals exhibiting the words "Go," "Caution," or "Stop" or exhibiting different colored lights, the following words or colors only shall be used and shall indicate as follows:

Use and meaning of words and colors.

Green or the word "Go": Vehicular traffic facing the signal except when prohibited by a superior regulation, may proceed straight through or turn right or left unless a sign at such place prohibits either such turn. But vehicular traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, shall yield the right of way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent cross walk at the time such signal is exhibited. Pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked cross walk unless directed otherwise by a pedestrian signal.

Green
or "Go."

Yellow alone or the word "Caution" when shown following green or "Go" signal: Vehicular traffic facing the signal is thereby warned that the red or Stop signal shall be exhibited immediately thereafter, and such vehicular traffic shall not enter or be crossing the intersection when the red or Stop signal is exhibited. Pedestrians facing such signal are thereby advised that there is insufficient time to cross the roadway, and any pedestrian then starting to cross shall yield the right of way to all vehicles.

Yellow or
"Caution",
following
green
or "Go."

Red alone or the word "Stop": Vehicular traffic facing the signal shall stop before entering the cross walk on the near side of the intersection, or, if none, then before entering the intersection and shall remain standing until a green signal is shown. No pedestrian facing such signal shall enter the roadway unless he can do so safely and without interfering with any vehicular traffic or unless a separate Walk indication is shown.

Red or
"Stop."

Red or the word "Stop" with green arrow: Vehicular traffic facing such signal may cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by such arrow, but shall yield the right of way to pedestrians lawfully within a cross walk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection. No pedestrian facing such signal shall enter the roadway unless he can safely and without interfering

Red or
"Stop" with
green arrow.

with any vehicular traffic: or unless a separate Walk indication is shown.

Flashing red. Flashing red: When a red lens is illuminated by rapid intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles shall stop before entering the nearest cross walk at an intersection or at a Stop line when marked, and the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a Stop sign.

Flashing yellow. Flashing yellow: When a yellow lens is illuminated with rapid intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past such signal only with caution.

Erection of control signals on city streets. No traffic control signal or device shall be erected or maintained upon any city street designated as forming a part of the route of a primary state highway or secondary state highway unless first approved by the director of highways.

New control signals. All new traffic control signals and all replacements of existing traffic control signals directing traffic to alternately stop and go shall have three signal faces facing each street, road or highway leading into the intersection with the red "Stop" signal located at the top of such signal, the amber "Caution" signal located at the center of such signal and the green "Go" signal located at the bottom of such signal.

[Am. Rem. Supp. 1949, § 6360-98.]

Passed the House January 29, 1951.

Passed the Senate March 3, 1951.

Approved by the Governor March 13, 1951.