
HOUSE BILL 1977

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Kilduff, Orcutt, and Lovick

1 AN ACT Relating to attestation of financial responsibility at the
2 time of vehicle registration; amending RCW 46.16A.050, 46.16A.110,
3 46.30.040, and 46.63.020; creating a new section; prescribing
4 penalties; and providing an effective date.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16A.050 and 2014 c 197 s 1 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent
9 appointed by the director shall not issue an initial registration
10 certificate for a motor vehicle to a natural person under this
11 chapter unless the natural person at time of application:

12 (a)(i) Presents an unexpired Washington state driver's license;
13 or

14 (~~(b)~~) (ii) Certifies that he or she is:

15 (~~(i)~~) (A) A Washington state resident who does not operate a
16 motor vehicle on public roads; or

17 (~~(ii)~~) (B) Exempt from the requirement to obtain a Washington
18 state driver's license under RCW 46.20.025; and

19 (b) Attests that, with respect to any person who will be the
20 driver of the vehicle during the registration period, the person is

1 insured under a motor vehicle liability policy as required under RCW
2 46.30.020 or otherwise meets the requirements of RCW 46.30.020.

3 (2) The department must set up procedures to verify that all
4 owners meet the requirements of this section.

5 (3) A person falsifying residency is guilty of a gross
6 misdemeanor punishable only by a fine of five hundred twenty-nine
7 dollars.

8 (4) The department may adopt rules necessary to implement this
9 section, including rules under which a natural person applying for
10 registration may be exempt from the requirements of this section if
11 the person provides evidence satisfactory to the department that he
12 or she has a valid and compelling reason for not being able to meet
13 the requirements of this section.

14 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.16A.110 and 2014 c 80 s 3 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (1) A registered owner or the registered owner's authorized
17 representative must apply for a renewal vehicle registration to the
18 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by
19 the director on a form approved by the director. The department,
20 county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the director
21 may not accept a renewal vehicle registration application unless the
22 applicant attests that, with respect to any person who will be the
23 driver of the vehicle during the registration period, the person is
24 insured under a motor vehicle liability policy as required under RCW
25 46.30.020 or otherwise meets the requirements of RCW 46.30.020. The
26 application for a renewal vehicle registration must be accompanied by
27 a draft, money order, certified bank check, or cash for all fees and
28 taxes required by law for the application for a renewal vehicle
29 registration.

30 (2)(a) When a vehicle changes ownership, the person taking
31 ownership or his or her authorized representative must apply for a
32 renewal vehicle registration as provided in subsection (1) of this
33 section and, except as provided in (b) of this subsection, pay all
34 the taxes and fees that are due at the time of registration renewal.
35 For the purposes of this section, when a vehicle is sold to a vehicle
36 dealer for resale, the application for a renewal registration need
37 not be made until the vehicle is sold by the vehicle dealer.

38 (b) The person taking ownership or his or her authorized
39 representative must be given credit for the portion of a motor

1 vehicle excise tax, including the motor vehicle excise tax collected
2 under RCW 81.104.160, that reflects the remaining period for which
3 the tax was initially paid by the previous owner.

4 (3) An application and the fees and taxes for a renewal vehicle
5 registration must be handled in the same manner as an original
6 vehicle registration application. The registration does not need to
7 show the name of the lien holder when the application for renewal
8 vehicle registration becomes the renewal registration upon
9 validation.

10 (4) A person expecting to be out of state during the normal
11 renewal period of a vehicle registration may renew a vehicle
12 registration and have license plates or tabs preissued by applying
13 for a renewal as described in subsection (1) of this section. A
14 vehicle registration may be renewed for the subsequent registration
15 year up to eighteen months before the current expiration date and
16 must be displayed from the date of issue or from the day of the
17 expiration of the current registration year, whichever date is later.

18 (5) An application for a renewal vehicle registration is not
19 required for those vehicles owned, rented, or leased by:

20 (a) The state of Washington, or by any county, city, town, school
21 district, or other political subdivision of the state of Washington;
22 or

23 (b) A governing body of an Indian tribe located within this state
24 and recognized as a governmental entity by the United States
25 department of the interior.

26 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.30.040 and 1991 sp.s. c 25 s 2 are each amended
27 to read as follows:

28 ~~((Any))~~ A person ((who)) is guilty of a misdemeanor if the
29 person:

30 (1) Knowingly provides false evidence of financial responsibility
31 to a law enforcement officer or to a court, including an expired or
32 canceled insurance policy, bond, or certificate of deposit ((is
33 guilty of a misdemeanor)); or

34 (2) Falsely attests upon application for an initial vehicle
35 registration or registration renewal that, with respect to any person
36 who will be the driver of the vehicle during the registration period,
37 the person is insured under a motor vehicle liability policy as
38 required under RCW 46.30.020 or otherwise meets the requirements of
39 RCW 46.30.020.

1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.63.020 and 2016 c 213 s 4 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 Failure to perform any act required or the performance of any act
4 prohibited by this title or an equivalent administrative regulation
5 or local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution relating to
6 traffic including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian
7 offenses, is designated as a traffic infraction and may not be
8 classified as a criminal offense, except for an offense contained in
9 the following provisions of this title or a violation of an
10 equivalent administrative regulation or local law, ordinance,
11 regulation, or resolution:

12 (1) RCW 46.09.457(1)(b)(i) relating to a false statement
13 regarding the inspection of and installation of equipment on wheeled
14 all-terrain vehicles;

15 (2) RCW 46.09.470(2) relating to the operation of a nonhighway
16 vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a
17 controlled substance;

18 (3) RCW 46.09.480 relating to operation of nonhighway vehicles;

19 (4) RCW 46.10.490(2) relating to the operation of a snowmobile
20 while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or
21 habit-forming drugs or in a manner endangering the person of another;

22 (5) RCW 46.10.495 relating to the operation of snowmobiles;

23 (6) Chapter 46.12 RCW relating to certificates of title,
24 registration certificates, and markings indicating that a vehicle has
25 been destroyed or declared a total loss;

26 (7) RCW 46.16A.030 and 46.16A.050(3) relating to the nonpayment
27 of taxes and fees by failure to register a vehicle and falsifying
28 residency when registering a motor vehicle;

29 (8) RCW 46.16A.520 relating to permitting unauthorized persons to
30 drive;

31 (9) RCW 46.16A.320 relating to vehicle trip permits;

32 (10) RCW 46.19.050(1) relating to knowingly providing false
33 information in conjunction with an application for a special placard
34 or license plate for disabled persons' parking;

35 (11) RCW 46.19.050(8) relating to illegally obtaining a parking
36 placard, special license plate, special year tab, or identification
37 card;

38 (12) RCW 46.19.050(9) relating to sale of a parking placard,
39 special license plate, special year tab, or identification card;

1 (13) RCW 46.20.005 relating to driving without a valid driver's
2 license;

3 (14) RCW 46.20.091 relating to false statements regarding a
4 driver's license or instruction permit;

5 (15) RCW 46.20.0921 relating to the unlawful possession and use
6 of a driver's license;

7 (16) RCW 46.20.342 relating to driving with a suspended or
8 revoked license or status;

9 (17) RCW 46.20.345 relating to the operation of a motor vehicle
10 with a suspended or revoked license;

11 (18) RCW 46.20.410 relating to the violation of restrictions of
12 an occupational driver's license, temporary restricted driver's
13 license, or ignition interlock driver's license;

14 (19) RCW 46.20.740 relating to operation of a motor vehicle
15 without an ignition interlock device in violation of a license
16 notation that the device is required;

17 (20) RCW 46.20.750 relating to circumventing an ignition
18 interlock device;

19 (21) RCW 46.25.170 relating to commercial driver's licenses;

20 (22) Chapter 46.29 RCW relating to financial responsibility;

21 (23) RCW 46.30.040 relating to providing false evidence of
22 financial responsibility or falsely attesting to motor vehicle
23 liability insurance coverage;

24 (24) RCW 46.35.030 relating to recording device information;

25 (25) RCW 46.37.435 relating to wrongful installation of
26 sunscreening material;

27 (26) RCW 46.37.650 relating to the manufacture, importation,
28 sale, distribution, or installation of a counterfeit air bag,
29 nonfunctional air bag, or previously deployed or damaged air bag;

30 (27) RCW 46.37.660 relating to the sale or installation of a
31 device that causes a vehicle's diagnostic system to inaccurately
32 indicate that the vehicle has a functional air bag when a counterfeit
33 air bag, nonfunctional air bag, or no air bag is installed;

34 (28) RCW 46.37.671 through 46.37.675 relating to signal
35 preemption devices;

36 (29) RCW 46.37.685 relating to switching or flipping license
37 plates, utilizing technology to flip or change the appearance of a
38 license plate, selling a license plate flipping device or technology
39 used to change the appearance of a license plate, or falsifying a
40 vehicle registration;

- 1 (30) RCW 46.44.180 relating to operation of mobile home pilot
2 vehicles;
- 3 (31) RCW 46.48.175 relating to the transportation of dangerous
4 articles;
- 5 (32) RCW 46.52.010 relating to duty on striking an unattended car
6 or other property;
- 7 (33) RCW 46.52.020 relating to duty in case of injury to or death
8 of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;
- 9 (34) RCW 46.52.090 relating to reports by repairers, storage
10 persons, and appraisers;
- 11 (35) RCW 46.52.130 relating to confidentiality of the driving
12 record to be furnished to an insurance company, an employer, and an
13 alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agency;
- 14 (36) RCW 46.55.020 relating to engaging in the activities of a
15 registered tow truck operator without a registration certificate;
- 16 (37) RCW 46.55.035 relating to prohibited practices by tow truck
17 operators;
- 18 (38) RCW 46.55.300 relating to vehicle immobilization;
- 19 (39) RCW 46.61.015 relating to obedience to police officers,
20 flaggers, or firefighters;
- 21 (40) RCW 46.61.020 relating to refusal to give information to or
22 cooperate with an officer;
- 23 (41) RCW 46.61.022 relating to failure to stop and give
24 identification to an officer;
- 25 (42) RCW 46.61.024 relating to attempting to elude pursuing
26 police vehicles;
- 27 (43) RCW 46.61.212(4) relating to reckless endangerment of
28 emergency zone workers;
- 29 (44) RCW 46.61.500 relating to reckless driving;
- 30 (45) RCW 46.61.502 and 46.61.504 relating to persons under the
31 influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;
- 32 (46) RCW 46.61.503 relating to a person under age twenty-one
33 driving a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol;
- 34 (47) RCW 46.61.520 relating to vehicular homicide by motor
35 vehicle;
- 36 (48) RCW 46.61.522 relating to vehicular assault;
- 37 (49) RCW 46.61.5249 relating to first degree negligent driving;
- 38 (50) RCW 46.61.527(4) relating to reckless endangerment of
39 roadway workers;
- 40 (51) RCW 46.61.530 relating to racing of vehicles on highways;

- 1 (52) RCW 46.61.655(7) (a) and (b) relating to failure to secure a
2 load;
- 3 (53) RCW 46.61.685 relating to leaving children in an unattended
4 vehicle with the motor running;
- 5 (54) RCW 46.61.740 relating to theft of motor vehicle fuel;
- 6 (55) RCW 46.64.010 relating to unlawful cancellation of or
7 attempt to cancel a traffic citation;
- 8 (56) RCW 46.64.048 relating to attempting, aiding, abetting,
9 coercing, and committing crimes;
- 10 (57) Chapter 46.65 RCW relating to habitual traffic offenders;
- 11 (58) RCW 46.68.010 relating to false statements made to obtain a
12 refund;
- 13 (59) Chapter 46.70 RCW relating to unfair motor vehicle business
14 practices, except where that chapter provides for the assessment of
15 monetary penalties of a civil nature;
- 16 (60) Chapter 46.72 RCW relating to the transportation of
17 passengers in for hire vehicles;
- 18 (61) RCW 46.72A.060 relating to limousine carrier insurance;
- 19 (62) RCW 46.72A.070 relating to operation of a limousine without
20 a vehicle certificate;
- 21 (63) RCW 46.72A.080 relating to false advertising by a limousine
22 carrier;
- 23 (64) Chapter 46.80 RCW relating to motor vehicle wreckers;
- 24 (65) Chapter 46.82 RCW relating to driver's training schools;
- 25 (66) RCW 46.87.260 relating to alteration or forgery of a cab
26 card, letter of authority, or other temporary authority issued under
27 chapter 46.87 RCW;
- 28 (67) RCW 46.87.290 relating to operation of an unregistered or
29 unlicensed vehicle under chapter 46.87 RCW.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Section 2 of this act applies to vehicle
31 registrations that are due or become due on or after January 1, 2018.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** This act takes effect January 1, 2018.

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