
SENATE BILL 5128

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Senators Rolfes, Braun, Mullet, and Nguyen

Prefiled 01/11/19.

1 AN ACT Relating to reducing the electric motorcycle registration
2 renewal fee; amending RCW 46.17.323; creating a new section;
3 providing an effective date; providing a contingent expiration date;
4 and declaring an emergency.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.17.323 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 s 203 are each
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (1) Before accepting an application for an annual vehicle
9 registration renewal for a vehicle that both (a) uses at least one
10 method of propulsion that is capable of being reenergized by an
11 external source of electricity and (b) is capable of traveling at
12 least thirty miles using only battery power, except for electric
13 motorcycles, the department, county auditor or other agent, or
14 subagent appointed by the director must require the applicant to pay
15 a one hundred dollar fee in addition to any other fees and taxes
16 required by law. The one hundred dollar fee is due only at the time
17 of annual registration renewal.

18 (2) This section only applies to a vehicle that is designed to
19 have the capability to drive at a speed of more than thirty-five
20 miles per hour.

1 (3) (a) The fee under this section is imposed to provide funds to
2 mitigate the impact of vehicles on state roads and highways and for
3 the purpose of evaluating the feasibility of transitioning from a
4 revenue collection system based on fuel taxes to a road user
5 assessment system, and is separate and distinct from other vehicle
6 license fees. Proceeds from the fee must be used for highway
7 purposes, and must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund created in
8 RCW 46.68.070, subject to (b) of this subsection.

9 (b) If in any year the amount of proceeds from the fee collected
10 under this section exceeds one million dollars, the excess amount
11 over one million dollars must be deposited as follows:

12 (i) Seventy percent to the motor vehicle fund created in RCW
13 46.68.070;

14 (ii) Fifteen percent to the transportation improvement account
15 created in RCW 47.26.084; and

16 (iii) Fifteen percent to the rural arterial trust account created
17 in RCW 36.79.020.

18 (4) (a) In addition to the fee established in subsection (1) of
19 this section, before accepting an application for an annual vehicle
20 registration renewal for a vehicle that both (i) uses at least one
21 method of propulsion that is capable of being reenergized by an
22 external source of electricity and (ii) is capable of traveling at
23 least thirty miles using only battery power, except for electric
24 motorcycles, the department, county auditor or other agent, or
25 subagent appointed by the director must require the applicant to pay
26 a fifty dollar fee.

27 (b) The fee required under (a) of this subsection must be
28 distributed as follows:

29 (i) The first one million dollars raised by the fee must be
30 deposited into the multimodal transportation account created in RCW
31 47.66.070; and

32 (ii) Any remaining amounts must be deposited into the motor
33 vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

34 (5) Beginning July 1, 2019, before accepting an application for
35 an annual vehicle registration renewal for an electric motorcycle
36 that uses propulsion units powered solely by electricity, the
37 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by
38 the director must require the applicant to pay a thirty dollar fee in
39 addition to any other fees and taxes required by law. The thirty
40 dollar fee is due only at the time of annual registration renewal.

1 (6) The fees collected pursuant to subsections (5) and (6) of
2 this section shall be deposited into the motor vehicle fund created
3 in RCW 46.68.070.

4 (7) This section applies to annual vehicle registration renewals
5 until the effective date of enacted legislation that imposes a
6 vehicle miles traveled fee or tax.

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. Section 1 of this act expires on the
8 effective date of legislation enacted by the legislature that imposes
9 a vehicle miles traveled fee or tax.

10 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The department of licensing must provide
11 written notice of the expiration date of section 1 of this act to
12 affected parties, the chief clerk of the house of representatives,
13 the secretary of the senate, the office of the code reviser, and
14 others as deemed appropriate by the department.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. This act is necessary for the immediate
16 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of
17 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes
18 effect July 1, 2019.

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