

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5840

As of February 21, 1995

Title: An act relating to penalties for driving with a suspended or revoked license.

Brief Description: Reducing penalties under certain circumstances for driving with a suspended license.

Sponsors: Senator Smith.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Law & Justice: 2/21/95.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LAW & JUSTICE

Staff: Lidia Mori (786-7755)

Background: A person is guilty of driving with license suspended or revoked in the third degree when the person drives a motor vehicle and his or her driver's license is suspended or revoked solely because of one of the following conditions:

- (1) proof of satisfactory progress in a required alcoholism or drug treatment program needs to be furnished;
- (2) proof of financial responsibility for the future needs to be furnished;
- (3) failure to comply with statutory provisions relating to uninsured accidents;
- (4) failure to respond to a notice of a traffic infraction, violation of a written promise to appear in court or failure to comply with a traffic infraction;
- (5) the commission of an offense in another state that in this state would not be grounds for license suspension;
- (6) the person was eligible to reinstate the driver's license at the time of the violation but had neglected to do so.

Summary of Bill: A person who is cited for driving with license suspended or revoked in the third degree may mail proof of having obtained a valid Washington State driver's license to the court prior to the date scheduled for the person's appearance. The court then amends the charge to a violation of driving without a valid driver's license.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on February 21, 1995.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.