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SENATE BILL 6270

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State of Washington                      54th Legislature                      1996 Regular Session

By Senators McAuliffe, Fairley and Thibaudeau

Read first time 01/10/96. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            AN ACT Relating to public school license plates; amending RCW  
2 46.16.301 and 46.16.313; adding a new section to chapter 46.04 RCW;  
3 adding a new section to chapter 46.16 RCW; and adding a new section to  
4 chapter 28A.150 RCW.

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

6            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8            "Public school license plates" mean license plates that display a  
9 red apple symbol and an education-related motto.

10           **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.16.301 and 1995 3rd sp.s. c 1 s 102 are each  
11 amended to read as follows:

12           (1) The department may create, design, and issue special license  
13 plates that may be used in lieu of regular or personalized license  
14 plates for motor vehicles required to display two motor vehicle license  
15 plates, excluding vehicles registered under chapter 46.87 RCW, upon  
16 terms and conditions established by the department. The special plates  
17 may:

18           (a) Denote the age or type of vehicle; or

1 (b) Denote special activities or interests; or  
2 (c) Denote the status, or contribution or sacrifice for the United  
3 States, the state of Washington, or the citizens of the state of  
4 Washington, of a registered owner of that vehicle; or

5 (d) Display a depiction of the name and mascot or symbol of a state  
6 university, regional university, or state college as defined in RCW  
7 28B.10.016; or

8 (e) Display a red apple symbol and an education-related motto for  
9 state public schools.

10 (2) The department shall create, design, and issue a special  
11 baseball stadium license plate that may be used in lieu of regular or  
12 personalized license plates for motor vehicles required to display two  
13 motor vehicle license plates, excluding vehicles registered under  
14 chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the  
15 department. The special plates shall commemorate the construction of  
16 a baseball stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485. The department shall  
17 also issue to each recipient of a special baseball stadium license  
18 plate a certificate of participation in the construction of the  
19 baseball stadium.

20 (3) The department has the sole discretion to determine whether or  
21 not to create, design, or issue any series of special license plates,  
22 other than the special baseball stadium license plate under subsection  
23 (2) of this section, and whether any interest or status merits the  
24 issuance of a series of special license plates. In making this  
25 determination, the department shall consider whether or not an interest  
26 or status contributes or has contributed significantly to the public  
27 health, safety, or welfare of the citizens of the United States or of  
28 this state or to their significant benefit, or whether the interest or  
29 status is recognized by the United States, this state, or other states,  
30 in other settings or contexts. The department may also consider the  
31 potential number of persons who may be eligible for the plates and the  
32 cost and efficiency of producing limited numbers of the plates. The  
33 design of a special license plate shall conform to all requirements for  
34 plates for the type of vehicle for which it is issued, as provided  
35 elsewhere in this chapter.

36 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW  
37 to read as follows:

1 (1) The department, in consultation with the superintendent of  
2 public instruction, shall design a state-wide public school license  
3 plate with a red apple symbol and an education-related motto. Public  
4 school license plates issued under this chapter must be displayed on  
5 the department's officially designated mountain background design.

6 (2) Beginning July 1, 1997, persons may apply to the department for  
7 a public school license plate.

8 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.16.313 and 1995 3rd sp.s. c 1 s 103 are each  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (1) The department may establish a fee for each type of special  
11 license plates issued under RCW 46.16.301(1) (a), (b), or (c) in an  
12 amount calculated to offset the cost of production of the special  
13 license plates and the administration of this program. The fee shall  
14 not exceed thirty-five dollars and is in addition to all other fees  
15 required to register and license the vehicle for which the plates have  
16 been requested. All such additional special license plate fees  
17 collected by the department shall be deposited in the state treasury  
18 and credited to the motor vehicle fund.

19 (2) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon  
20 application, registration, and renewal registration of a motor vehicle,  
21 the holder of a collegiate license plate shall pay a fee of thirty  
22 dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two  
23 dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for administration  
24 and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds, minus  
25 the cost of plate production, shall be remitted to the custody of the  
26 state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report. The state  
27 treasurer shall credit the funds to the appropriate collegiate license  
28 plate fund as provided in RCW 28B.10.890.

29 (3) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon  
30 application, registration, and renewal registration of a motor vehicle,  
31 the holder of a special baseball stadium license plate shall pay a fee  
32 of thirty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed  
33 two dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for  
34 administration and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining  
35 proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be distributed to  
36 a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest payments  
37 on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as  
38 defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary

1 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW  
2 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds  
3 to the state general fund.

4 (4) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon  
5 application, registration, and renewal registration of a motor vehicle,  
6 the holder of a public school license plate shall pay a fee of thirty  
7 dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two  
8 dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for administration  
9 and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds, minus  
10 the cost of plate production, shall be remitted to the custody of the  
11 state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report. The state  
12 treasurer shall remit the proceeds to the appropriate public school  
13 district or the Washington apple education foundation, as designated by  
14 the public school license plate applicant.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 28A.150  
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 A public school license plate fund is established in the custody of  
18 the state treasurer for all receipts from public school license plates.  
19 The state treasurer shall remit the proceeds on a quarterly basis to  
20 the appropriate public school district or the Washington apple  
21 education foundation, as designated by the public school license plate  
22 applicant. If the applicant fails to designate a public school  
23 district or the Washington apple education foundation as recipient, the  
24 state treasurer shall remit the proceeds to the Washington apple  
25 education foundation. Expenditures of the funds made to public school  
26 districts must be approved by the superintendent of the local school  
27 district in consultation with the relevant parent organizations.  
28 Expenditures of funds credited to the Washington apple education  
29 foundation must be used exclusively for student scholarships.

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