
HOUSE BILL 2889

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Representatives Appelwick, Jacobsen, McLean, Kremen and Bowman

Read first time 01/31/92. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the number of dealer plates issued to motor
2 vehicle dealers; and amending RCW 46.70.090.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.70.090 and 1991 c 140 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The department shall issue a vehicle dealer license plate which
7 shall be attached to the rear of the vehicle only and which is capable
8 of distinguishing the classification of the dealer, to vehicle dealers
9 properly licensed pursuant to this chapter and shall, upon application,
10 issue manufacturer's license plates to manufacturers properly licensed
11 pursuant to this chapter.

12 (2) The department shall not issue a vehicle dealer license plate
13 to any vehicle dealer selling fewer than five vehicles annually. The
14 department shall issue no more than two dealer plates to a dealer who

1 sold six to thirty vehicles during the preceding year's license period.
2 The department shall issue no more than three dealer plates to a dealer
3 who sold thirty-one to sixty vehicles during the preceding year's
4 license period. After the ((first)) third dealer plate is issued, the
5 department shall limit the number of dealer plates to six percent of
6 the vehicles sold during the preceding license period. For an original
7 license the vehicle dealer license applicant shall estimate the first
8 year's sales.

9 (3) Motor vehicle dealer license plates may be used:

10 (a) To demonstrate motor vehicles held for sale when operated by an
11 individual holding a valid operator's license, if a dated demonstration
12 permit, valid for no more than seventy-two hours, is carried in the
13 vehicle at all times it is operated by any such individual.

14 (b) On motor vehicles owned, held for sale, and which are in fact
15 available for sale by the firm when operated by an officer of the
16 corporation, partnership, or proprietorship or by their spouses, or by
17 a bona fide full-time employee of the firm, if a card so identifying
18 any such individual is carried in the vehicle at all times it is
19 operated by such individual. Any such vehicle so operated may be used
20 to transport the dealer's own tools, parts, and equipment of a total
21 weight not to exceed five hundred pounds.

22 (c) On motor vehicles being tested for repair.

23 (d) On motor vehicles being moved to or from a motor vehicle
24 dealer's place of business for sale.

25 (e) On motor vehicles being moved to or from motor vehicle service
26 and repair facilities before sale.

27 (f) On motor vehicles being moved to or from motor vehicle
28 exhibitions within the state of Washington, if any such exhibition does
29 not exceed a period of twenty days.

1 (4) Mobile home and travel trailer dealer license plates may be
2 used:

3 (a) On units hauled to or from the place of business of the
4 manufacturer and the place of business of the dealer or to and from
5 places of business of the dealer.

6 (b) On mobile homes hauled to a customer's location for set-up
7 after sale.

8 (c) On travel trailers held for sale to demonstrate the towing
9 capability of the vehicle if a dated demonstration permit, valid for
10 not more than seventy-two hours, is carried with the vehicle at all
11 times.

12 (d) On mobile homes being hauled from a customer's location if the
13 requirements of RCW 46.44.170 and 46.44.175 are met.

14 (e) On any motor vehicle owned by the dealer which is used only to
15 move vehicles legally bearing mobile home and travel trailer dealer
16 license plates of the dealer so owning any such motor vehicle.

17 (f) On vehicles being moved to or from vehicle exhibitions within
18 the state of Washington, if any such exhibition does not exceed a
19 period of twenty days.

20 (5) Miscellaneous vehicle dealer license plates may be used:

21 (a) To demonstrate any miscellaneous vehicle: PROVIDED, That:

22 (i) No such vehicle may be demonstrated on a public highway unless
23 the customer has an appropriate endorsement on his driver's license, if
24 such endorsement is required to operate such vehicle; and

25 (ii) A dated demonstration permit, valid for no more than seventy-
26 two hours, is carried with the vehicle at all times it is operated by
27 any such individual.

28 (b) On vehicles owned, held for sale, and which are in fact
29 available for sale, by the firm when operated by an officer of the
30 corporation, partnership, or proprietorship or by a bona fide full-time

1 employee of the firm, if a card so identifying such individual is
2 carried in the vehicle at all times it is operated by him.

3 (c) On vehicles being tested for repair.

4 (d) On vehicles being transported to or from the place of business
5 of the manufacturer and the place of business of the dealer or to and
6 from places of business of the dealer.

7 (e) On vehicles on which any other item sold or to be sold by the
8 dealer is transported from the place of business of the manufacturer to
9 the place of business of the dealer or to and from places of business
10 of the dealer if such vehicle and such item are purchased or sold as
11 one package.

12 (6) Manufacturers properly licensed pursuant to this chapter may
13 apply for and obtain manufacturer license plates and may be used:

14 (a) On vehicles being moved to or from the place of business of a
15 manufacturer to a vehicle dealer within this state who is properly
16 licensed pursuant to this chapter.

17 (b) To test vehicles for repair.

18 (7) Vehicle dealer license plates and manufacturer license plates
19 shall not be used for any purpose other than set forth in this section
20 and specifically shall not be:

21 (a) Used on any vehicle not within the class for which the vehicle
22 dealer or manufacturer license plates are issued unless specifically
23 provided for in this section.

24 (b) Loaned to any person for any reason not specifically provided
25 for in this section.

26 (c) Used on any vehicles for the transportation of any person,
27 produce, freight, or commodities unless specifically provided for in
28 this section, except there shall be permitted the use of such vehicle
29 dealer license plates on a vehicle transporting commodities in the
30 course of a demonstration over a period not to exceed seventy-two

1 consecutive hours from the commencement of such demonstration, if a
2 representative of the dealer is present and accompanies such vehicle
3 during the course of the demonstration.

4 (d) Used on any vehicle sold to a resident of another state to
5 transport such vehicle to that other state in lieu of a trip permit or
6 in lieu of vehicle license plates obtained from that other state.

7 (e) Used on any new vehicle unless the vehicle dealer has provided
8 the department a current service agreement with the manufacturer or
9 distributor of that vehicle as provided in RCW 46.70.041(1)(k).

10 (8) In addition to or in lieu of any sanction imposed by the
11 director pursuant to RCW 46.70.101 for unauthorized use of vehicle
12 dealer license plates or manufacturer license plates, the director may
13 order that any or all vehicle dealer license plates or manufacturer
14 license plates issued pursuant to this chapter be confiscated for such
15 period as he deems appropriate.