
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5116

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Education (originally sponsored by Senators Murray, Bailey, Thorsness, Gaspard, A. Smith, Rinehart, Madsen, Talmadge, Bauer and Erwin; by request of Task Force on Student Transp. Safety).

Read first time February 19, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to transportation safety; adding new sections to
2 chapter 46.61 RCW; creating a new section; and making an appropriation.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.61 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 If a law enforcement officer investigating a violation of RCW
7 46.61.370 has reasonable cause to believe that a violation has
8 occurred, the officer may request the owner of the motor vehicle to
9 supply information identifying the driver of the vehicle at the time
10 the violation occurred. When requested, the owner of the motor vehicle
11 shall identify the driver to the best of the owner's ability. The
12 owner of the vehicle is not required to supply identification
13 information to the law enforcement officer if the owner believes the
14 information is self-incriminating.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.61 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The driver of a school bus who observes a violation of RCW
4 46.61.370 may prepare a written report on a form provided by the state
5 patrol or another law enforcement agency indicating that a violation
6 has occurred. The driver of the school bus or a school official may
7 deliver the report to a law enforcement officer of the state, county,
8 or municipality in which the violation occurred but not more than
9 seventy-two hours after the violation occurred. The driver shall
10 include in the report the time and location at which the violation
11 occurred, the vehicle license plate number, and a description of the
12 vehicle involved in the violation.

13 (2) The law enforcement officer shall initiate an investigation of
14 the reported violation within ten working days after receiving the
15 report described in subsection (1) of this section by contacting the
16 owner of the motor vehicle involved in the reported violation and
17 requesting the owner to supply information identifying the driver.
18 Failure to investigate within the ten working day period does not
19 prohibit further investigation or prosecution. If, after an
20 investigation, the law enforcement officer is able to identify the
21 driver and has reasonable cause to believe a violation of RCW 46.61.370
22 has occurred, the law enforcement officer shall prepare a notice of
23 traffic infraction and have it served upon the driver of the vehicle.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The superintendent of public
25 instruction, in cooperation with a least one school district, shall
26 conduct a pilot program to test the feasibility of using video cameras
27 to identify motorists and vehicles that illegally pass school buses
28 when the bus is loading and unloading students. The superintendent

1 shall report his or her findings to the legislature by December 30,
2 1992.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The sum of forty-five thousand dollars,
4 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the
5 biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the general fund to the
6 superintendent of public instruction for the purposes of this act.