

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SHB 2629

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As Amended by Senate

**Title:** An act relating to junk vehicles.

**Brief Description:** Revising the definition of junk vehicle.

**Sponsors:** By House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives R. Fisher, Appelwick, Campbell, Sommers, Edmondson and Dorn).

**Brief History:**

Reported by House Committee on:  
Transportation, February 1, 1994, DPS;  
Passed House, February 10, 1994, 70-25;  
Amended by Senate.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

**Majority Report:** The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 22 members: Representatives R. Fisher, Chair; Brown, Vice Chair; Jones, Vice Chair; Schmidt, Ranking Minority Member; Mielke, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Backlund; Brough; Brumsickle; Cothorn; Eide; Finkbeiner; Heavey; Horn; Johanson; J. Kohl; R. Meyers; Orr; Patterson; Romero; Sheldon; Wood and Zellinsky.

**Minority Report:** Do not pass. Signed by 5 members: Representatives Forner; Fuhrman; Hansen; Quall and Shin.

**Staff:** Brad Lovaas (786-7307).

**Background:** In order for a vehicle to meet the statutory definition of a "junk vehicle," it must meet five requirements. Those requirements include that the vehicle: (1) is three years old or older; (2) is extensively damaged; (3) is apparently inoperable; (4) is without a valid, current registration plate; and (5) has an approximate fair market value equal only to the approximate value of the scrap in it.

**Summary of Bill:** This legislation changes the definition of a junk vehicle in two ways. First, it deletes the requirement that a vehicle must be without a valid, current registration plate. Secondly, it requires that a vehicle

meet only three of the four remaining criteria in order to be classified as a junk vehicle by law enforcement.

**EFFECT OF SENATE AMENDMENT(S):** The Senate amendment provides that law enforcement officers writing a traffic infraction for an abandoned vehicle shall send a copy of the infraction notice to the last known address of the registered owner by certified mail.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

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

**Testimony For:** This bill will allow for disposal of truly junk vehicles.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Witnesses:** Gary Pedersen, City of Tacoma; Darlena Gray, Hilltop Action Coalition; Carl Turner, City of Tacoma; Jack Pleasant, Hilltop citizen; Stuart Halsan, Washington Tow Truck Association; and Mike Torbert, Able Auto Wrecking.

**VOTE ON FINAL PASSAGE:**

Yeas 70; Nays 25; Excused 3

Nays: Representatives Backlund, Ballard, Bray, Casada, Chandler, Cooke, Foreman, Forner, Fuhrman, Hansen, Long, Mastin, McMorris, Padden, Quall, Schoesler, Sehlin, Sheahan, Silver, Stevens, Tate, B. Thomas, L. Thomas, Van Luven, Wood

Excused: Representatives Dunshee, Mielke, Riley