
HOUSE BILL 1742

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Zellinsky, Schmidt, Orr, Mielke, R. Meyers, Ballard, Jacobsen and Wood

Read first time 02/08/93. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to thumb prints on applications for drivers'
2 licenses and identicards; amending RCW 46.20.091, 46.20.117, and
3 46.20.118; and creating a new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that identification
6 document fraud is pervasive in Washington state and undermines the
7 anticrime policies of this state. Identification document fraud often
8 involves checks, credit cards, licensing, voter registration cards,
9 insurance, welfare, money laundering, and the trafficking of illegal
10 drugs. This abuse has significant legal, economic, and political
11 consequences and undermines the public confidence in governmental and
12 commercial institutions.

13 The state driver's license and identification cards are the most
14 commonly used documents for identification in private and public
15 transactions. The legislature finds that the driver's license is used
16 not merely to certify driver qualification, nor is the identification
17 card a document that should be issued without adequate proof of
18 identity.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.20.091 and 1990 c 250 s 35 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) Every application for an instruction permit or for an original
4 driver's license shall be made upon a form prescribed and furnished by
5 the department which shall be sworn to and signed by the applicant
6 before a person authorized to administer oaths. Every application for
7 an instruction permit containing a photograph shall be accompanied by
8 a fee of five dollars. The department shall forthwith transmit the
9 fees collected for instruction permits and temporary drivers' permits
10 to the state treasurer.

11 (2) Every such application shall state the full name, date of
12 birth, sex, and Washington residence address of the applicant, and
13 briefly describe the applicant, and shall state whether the applicant
14 has theretofore been licensed as a driver or chauffeur, and, if so,
15 when and by what state or country, and whether any such license has
16 ever been suspended or revoked, or whether an application has ever been
17 refused, and, if so, the date of and reason for such suspension,
18 revocation, or refusal, and shall state such additional information as
19 the department shall require.

20 (3) Every application for an original or duplicate driver's license
21 must include a legible thumb print.

22 (4) Whenever application is received from a person previously
23 licensed in another jurisdiction, the department shall request a copy
24 of such driver's record from such other jurisdiction. When received,
25 the driving record shall become a part of the driver's record in this
26 state.

27 (~~(4)~~) (5) Whenever the department receives request for a driving
28 record from another licensing jurisdiction, the record shall be
29 forwarded without charge if the other licensing jurisdiction extends
30 the same privilege to the state of Washington. Otherwise there shall
31 be a reasonable charge for transmittal of the record, the amount to be
32 fixed by the director of the department.

33 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.20.117 and 1986 c 15 s 1 are each amended to read
34 as follows:

35 (1) The department shall issue "identicards," containing a picture,
36 to (~~individuals~~) nondrivers for a fee of four dollars. However, the
37 fee shall be the actual cost of production to recipients of continuing
38 public assistance grants under Title 74 RCW who are referred in writing

1 to the department by the secretary of social and health services. The
2 fee shall be deposited in the highway safety fund. To be eligible,
3 each applicant shall produce evidence as required by the rules adopted
4 by the director that positively proves identity. The evidence must
5 include a legible thumb print for each applicant for an original,
6 renewed, or duplicate identicard. The "identicard" shall be distinctly
7 designed so that it will not be confused with the official driver's
8 license. The identicard shall expire on the fifth anniversary of the
9 applicant's birthdate after issuance.

10 (2) The department may cancel an "identicard" upon a showing by its
11 records or other evidence that the holder of such "identicard" has
12 committed a violation relating to "identicards" defined in RCW
13 46.20.336.

14 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.20.118 and 1990 c 250 s 37 are each amended to read
15 as follows:

16 The department shall maintain a ~~((negative))~~ file~~((.---It shall~~
17 ~~contain negatives of))~~ containing all pictures and thumb prints taken
18 by the department of licensing as authorized by RCW 46.20.070 through
19 46.20.119. ~~((Negatives))~~ Pictures and thumb prints in the file shall
20 not be available for public inspection and copying under chapter 42.17
21 RCW. The department may make the file available and provide legible
22 copies to official governmental enforcement agencies to assist in the
23 investigation by the agencies of suspected criminal activity. The
24 department may also provide a print to the driver's next of kin in the
25 event the driver is deceased.

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