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HOUSE BILL 2903

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State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Representative Lemmon

Read first time 02/02/94. Referred to Committee on Financial Institutions & Insurance.

1 AN ACT Relating to failure to provide proof of vehicle liability  
2 insurance; amending RCW 46.30.020; and prescribing penalties.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.30.020 and 1991 sp.s. c 25 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) No person may operate a motor vehicle subject to  
7 registration under chapter 46.16 RCW in this state unless the person is  
8 insured under a motor vehicle liability policy with liability limits of  
9 at least the amounts provided in RCW 46.29.090, is self-insured as  
10 provided in RCW 46.29.630, is covered by a certificate of deposit in  
11 conformance with RCW 46.29.550, or is covered by a liability bond of at  
12 least the amounts provided in RCW 46.29.090. Written proof of  
13 financial responsibility for motor vehicle operation must be provided  
14 on the request of a law enforcement officer in the format specified  
15 under RCW 46.30.030.

16 (b) A person who drives a motor vehicle that is required to be  
17 registered in another state that requires drivers and owners of  
18 vehicles in that state to maintain insurance or financial  
19 responsibility shall, when requested by a law enforcement officer,

1 provide evidence of financial responsibility or insurance as is  
2 required by the laws of the state in which the vehicle is registered.

3 (c) When asked to do so by a law enforcement officer, failure to  
4 display an insurance identification card as specified under RCW  
5 46.30.030 creates a presumption that the person does not have motor  
6 vehicle insurance.

7 (d) Failure to provide proof of motor vehicle insurance is a  
8 traffic infraction and is subject to penalties as set by the supreme  
9 court under RCW 46.63.110 or community service. If a person fails to  
10 provide proof of motor vehicle insurance more than one time during a  
11 calendar year, and the previous citation or citations have not been  
12 dismissed under subsection (2) of this section, the law enforcement  
13 officer may issue a notice of traffic infraction and may also impound  
14 the vehicle if the person cited is also a registered owner of the  
15 vehicle.

16 (2) If a person cited for a violation of subsection (1) of this  
17 section appears in person before the court and provides written  
18 evidence that at the time the person was cited, he or she was in  
19 compliance with the financial responsibility requirements of subsection  
20 (1) of this section, the citation shall be dismissed. In lieu of  
21 personal appearance, a person cited for a violation of subsection (1)  
22 of this section may, before the date scheduled for the person's  
23 appearance before the court, submit by mail to the court written  
24 evidence that at the time the person was cited, he or she was in  
25 compliance with the financial responsibility requirements of subsection  
26 (1) of this section, in which case the citation shall be dismissed  
27 without cost, except that the court may assess court administrative  
28 costs of twenty-five dollars at the time of dismissal.

29 (3) The provisions of this chapter shall not govern:

30 (a) The operation of a motor vehicle registered under RCW  
31 46.16.305(1), governed by RCW 46.16.020, or registered with the  
32 Washington utilities and transportation commission as common or  
33 contract carriers; or

34 (b) The operation of a motorcycle as defined in RCW 46.04.330, a  
35 motor-driven cycle as defined in RCW 46.04.332, or a moped as defined  
36 in RCW 46.04.304.

1           (4) RCW 46.29.490 shall not be deemed to govern all motor vehicle  
2 liability policies required by this chapter but only those certified  
3 for the purposes stated in chapter 46.29 RCW.

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