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HOUSE BILL 1195

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State of Washington

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1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Robertson, Schoesler, Dunshee, Sterk, Scott, K. Schmidt, Buck, Smith, Delvin, Hickel, Carlson, Hatfield, DeBolt, Dunn and Mulliken

Read first time 01/16/97. Referred to Committee on Transportation Policy & Budget.

1 AN ACT Relating to proof of financial responsibility for motor  
2 vehicle operation; and amending RCW 46.30.020.

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, or a driver's license  
15 examiner in the course of his or her official duties, in the format  
16 specified under RCW 46.30.030.

17 (b) A person who drives a motor vehicle that is required to be  
18 registered in another state that requires drivers and owners of  
19 vehicles in that state to maintain insurance or financial

1 responsibility shall, when requested by a law enforcement officer,  
2 provide evidence of financial responsibility or insurance as is  
3 required by the laws of the state in which the vehicle is registered.

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

8 (d) Failure to provide proof of motor vehicle insurance when  
9 requested by a law enforcement officer is a traffic infraction and is  
10 subject to penalties as set by the supreme court under RCW 46.63.110 or  
11 community service.

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

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

26 (a) The operation of a motor vehicle registered under RCW  
27 46.16.305(1), governed by RCW 46.16.020, or registered with the  
28 Washington utilities and transportation commission as common or  
29 contract carriers; or

30 (b) The operation of a motorcycle as defined in RCW 46.04.330, a  
31 motor-driven cycle as defined in RCW 46.04.332, or a moped as defined  
32 in RCW 46.04.304.

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

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