
HOUSE BILL 2440

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By Representatives D. Sommers, Sterk, Costa and Gombosky

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to requirements for driver's license renewals; and
2 amending RCW 46.20.120.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.20.120 and 1990 c 9 s 1 are each amended to read as
5 follows:

6 No new driver's license may be issued and no previously issued
7 license may be renewed until the applicant therefor has successfully
8 passed a driver licensing examination. However, the department may
9 waive all or any part of the examination of any person applying for the
10 renewal of a driver's license except when the department determines
11 that an applicant for a driver's license is not qualified to hold a
12 driver's license under this title. The department may also waive the
13 actual demonstration of the ability to operate a motor vehicle by a
14 person who surrenders a valid driver's license issued by the person's
15 previous home state and who is otherwise qualified to be licensed. For
16 a new license examination a fee of seven dollars shall be paid by each
17 applicant, in addition to the fee charged for issuance of the license.
18 A new license is one issued to a driver who has not been previously

1 licensed in this state or to a driver whose last previous Washington
2 license has been expired for more than four years.

3 Upon reaching age sixty-nine, a person applying for renewal must
4 demonstrate an ability to read and understand traffic signals as well
5 as knowledge of the state traffic laws. Upon reaching age seventy-
6 five, a person applying for renewal must also successfully pass a road
7 test to demonstrate the person's ability to drive with care and
8 control. Beginning at age eighty-one, a person applying for renewal
9 must successfully pass all exams every two years in order to renew, and
10 beginning at age eighty-seven, a person applying for renewal must
11 successfully pass the exams every year.

12 Any person renewing his or her driver's license more than sixty
13 days after the license has expired shall pay a penalty fee of ten
14 dollars in addition to the renewal fee under RCW 46.20.181. The
15 penalty fee shall be deposited in the highway safety fund.

16 Any person who is outside the state at the time his or her driver's
17 license expires or who is unable to renew the license due to any
18 incapacity may renew the license within sixty days after returning to
19 this state or within sixty days after the termination of any such
20 incapacity without the payment of the penalty fee.

21 The department shall provide for giving examinations at places and
22 times reasonably available to the people of this state.

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