
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5513

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Oke, Spanel, Wood and Horn)

Read first time 02/28/97.

1 AN ACT Relating to exceptions from vessel registration; and
2 amending RCW 88.02.030.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 88.02.030 and 1991 c 339 s 30 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Vessel registration is required under this chapter except for the
7 following:

8 (1) Military or public vessels of the United States, except
9 recreational-type public vessels;

10 (2) Vessels owned by a state or subdivision thereof, used
11 principally for governmental purposes and clearly identifiable as such;

12 (3) Vessels either (a) registered or numbered under the laws of a
13 country other than the United States; or (b) having a valid United
14 States customs service cruising license issued pursuant to 19 C.F.R.
15 Sec. 4.94;

16 (4) Vessels that have been issued a valid number under federal law
17 or by an approved issuing authority of the state of principal
18 operation. However, a vessel that is validly registered in another
19 state but that is removed to this state for principal use is subject to

1 registration under this chapter. The issuing authority for this state
2 shall recognize the validity of the numbers previously issued for a
3 period of sixty days after arrival in this state;

4 (5) Vessels owned by a (~~resident of another state~~) nonresident if
5 the vessel is located upon the waters of this state exclusively for
6 repairs, alteration, or reconstruction, or any testing related to the
7 repair, alteration, or reconstruction conducted in this state if an
8 employee of the repair, alteration, or construction facility is on
9 board the vessel during any testing: PROVIDED, That any vessel owned
10 by a (~~resident of another state~~) nonresident is located upon the
11 waters of this state exclusively for repairs, alteration,
12 reconstruction, or testing for a period longer than sixty days, that
13 the nonresident shall file an affidavit with the department of revenue
14 verifying the vessel is located upon the waters of this state for
15 repair, alteration, reconstruction, or testing and shall continue to
16 file such affidavit every sixty days thereafter, while the vessel is
17 located upon the waters of this state exclusively for repairs,
18 alteration, reconstruction, or testing;

19 (6) Vessels equipped with propulsion machinery of less than ten
20 horsepower that:

21 (a) Are owned by the owner of a vessel for which a valid vessel
22 number has been issued;

23 (b) Display the number of that numbered vessel followed by the
24 suffix "1" in the manner prescribed by the department; and

25 (c) Are used as a tender for direct transportation between that
26 vessel and the shore and for no other purpose;

27 (7) Vessels under sixteen feet in overall length which have no
28 propulsion machinery of any type or which are not used on waters
29 subject to the jurisdiction of the United States or on the high seas
30 beyond the territorial seas for vessels owned in the United States and
31 are powered by propulsion machinery of ten or less horsepower;

32 (8) Vessels with no propulsion machinery of any type for which the
33 primary mode of propulsion is human power;

34 (~~9) (Vessels which are temporarily in this state undergoing repair
35 or alteration;~~

36 (~~10~~)) Vessels primarily engaged in commerce which have or are
37 required to have a valid marine document as a vessel of the United
38 States. Commercial vessels which the department of revenue determines
39 have the external appearance of vessels which would otherwise be

1 required to register under this chapter, must display decals issued
2 annually by the department of revenue that indicate the vessel's exempt
3 status; (~~and~~

4 ~~(11))~~ (10) Vessels primarily engaged in commerce which are owned
5 by a resident of a country other than the United States; and

6 (11) On and after January 1, 1998, vessels owned by a nonresident
7 individual brought into the state for his or her use or enjoyment while
8 temporarily within the state for not more than six months in any
9 continuous twelve-month period, unless the vessel is used in conducting
10 a nontransitory business activity within the state. However, the
11 vessel must (a) be registered or numbered under the laws of a country
12 other than the United States, (b) have a valid United States customs
13 service cruising license issued under 19 C.F.R. Sec. 4.94, or (c) have
14 been issued a valid number under federal law or by an approved issuing
15 authority of the state of principal operation. On or before the sixty-
16 first day of use in the state, any vessel temporarily in the state
17 under this subsection shall obtain an identification document from the
18 department of licensing, its agents, or subagents indicating when the
19 vessel first came into the state. An identification document shall be
20 valid for a period of two months. At the time of any issuance of an
21 identification document, a twenty-five dollar identification document
22 fee shall be paid by the vessel owner to the department of licensing
23 for the cost of providing the identification document by the department
24 of licensing. Any moneys remaining from the fee after payment of costs
25 shall be allocated to counties by the state treasurer for approved
26 boating safety programs under RCW 88.02.045. The department of
27 licensing shall adopt rules to implement its duties under this
28 subsection, including issuing and displaying the identification
29 document and collecting the twenty-five dollar fee.

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