

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6525**

---

**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1998 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Financial Institutions, Insurance & Housing  
(originally sponsored by Senators Franklin, Winsley, Fairley, Kohl,  
Rasmussen, Brown and Patterson)

Read first time 02/06/98.

1 AN ACT Relating to proof of financial responsibility or motor  
2 vehicle liability insurance; and amending RCW 46.16.212, 46.16.210, and  
3 46.30.040.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.212 and 1989 c 353 s 10 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 (1) The department of licensing shall notify the public of the  
8 requirements of RCW 46.30.020 through 46.30.040 at the time of new  
9 vehicle registration and when the department sends a registration  
10 renewal notice.

11 (2) The department of licensing shall not issue an original vehicle  
12 license or renew a vehicle license unless the applicant provides  
13 written proof of meeting the financial responsibility requirements for  
14 operating a motor vehicle as provided in RCW 46.30.020.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.16.210 and 1997 c 241 s 8 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 (1) Upon receipt of the application and proper fee for original  
18 vehicle license, the director shall make a recheck of the application

1 and in the event that there is any error in the application it may be  
2 returned to the county auditor or other agent to effectively secure the  
3 correction of such error, who shall return the same corrected to the  
4 director.

5 (2) Application for the renewal of a vehicle license shall be made  
6 to the director or his agents, including county auditors, by the  
7 registered owner on a form prescribed by the director. The application  
8 must be accompanied by the certificate of registration for the last  
9 registration period in which the vehicle was registered in Washington  
10 unless the applicant submits a preprinted application mailed from  
11 Olympia, and the payment of such license fees and excise tax as may be  
12 required by law. Such application shall be handled in the same manner  
13 and the fees transmitted to the state treasurer in the same manner as  
14 in the case of an original application. Any such application which  
15 upon validation becomes a renewal certificate need not have entered  
16 upon it the name of the lien holder, if any, of the vehicle concerned.

17 (3) Persons expecting to be out of the state during the normal  
18 renewal period of a vehicle license may secure renewal of such vehicle  
19 license and have license plates or tabs preissued by making application  
20 to the director or his agents upon forms prescribed by the director.  
21 The application must be accompanied by the certificate of registration  
22 for the last registration period in which the vehicle was registered in  
23 Washington and be accompanied by such license fees, and excise tax as  
24 may be required by law.

25 (4) Every applicant for an original vehicle license or for the  
26 renewal of a vehicle license shall provide current proof of financial  
27 responsibility to operate a vehicle as required in RCW 46.30.020. The  
28 department may adopt rules regarding valid proof of financial  
29 responsibility for persons applying for or renewing a vehicle license.

30 (5) Application for the annual renewal of a vehicle license number  
31 plate to the director or the director's agents shall not be required  
32 for those vehicles owned, rented, or leased by the state of Washington,  
33 or by any county, city, town, school district, or other political  
34 subdivision of the state of Washington or a governing body of an Indian  
35 tribe located within this state and recognized as a governmental entity  
36 by the United States department of the interior.

37 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.30.040 and 1991 sp.s. c 25 s 2 are each amended to  
38 read as follows:

1 Any person who knowingly provides false evidence of financial  
2 responsibility to a law enforcement officer (~~(or)~~), to a court, or to  
3 the department of licensing on an application for an original vehicle  
4 license or the renewal of a vehicle license, including an expired or  
5 canceled insurance policy, bond, or certificate of deposit is guilty of  
6 a misdemeanor.

--- END ---