
SENATE BILL 6603

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Horn, Spanel, Oke and Wood

Read first time 01/22/98. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

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 1997 c 83 s 1 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 nonresident if the vessel is located upon
5 the waters of this state exclusively for repairs, alteration, or
6 reconstruction, or any testing related to the repair, alteration, or
7 reconstruction conducted in this state if an employee of the repair,
8 alteration, or construction facility is on board the vessel during any
9 testing: PROVIDED, That any vessel owned by a nonresident is located
10 upon the waters of this state exclusively for repairs, alteration,
11 reconstruction, or testing for a period longer than sixty days, that
12 the nonresident shall file an affidavit with the department of revenue
13 verifying the vessel is located upon the waters of this state for
14 repair, alteration, reconstruction, or testing and shall continue to
15 file such affidavit every sixty days thereafter, while the vessel is
16 located upon the waters of this state exclusively for repairs,
17 alteration, reconstruction, or testing;

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

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

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

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

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

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

33 (9) Vessels primarily engaged in commerce which have or are
34 required to have a valid marine document as a vessel of the United
35 States. Commercial vessels which the department of revenue determines
36 have the external appearance of vessels which would otherwise be
37 required to register under this chapter, must display decals issued
38 annually by the department of revenue that indicate the vessel's exempt
39 status;

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

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