
HOUSE BILL 3075

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representative Sullivan

Read first time 01/27/2000. Referred to Committee on Financial Institutions & Insurance.

1 AN ACT Relating to mandatory automobile liability insurance;
2 amending RCW 46.30.020; and adding a new section to chapter 46.30 RCW.

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) Except as provided in section 2 of this act, no person may
7 operate a motor vehicle subject to registration under chapter 46.16 RCW
8 in this state unless the person is insured under a motor vehicle
9 liability policy with liability limits of at least the amounts provided
10 in RCW 46.29.090, is self-insured as provided in RCW 46.29.630, is
11 covered by a certificate of deposit in conformance with RCW 46.29.550,
12 or is covered by a liability bond of at least the amounts provided in
13 RCW 46.29.090. Written proof of financial responsibility for motor
14 vehicle operation must be provided on the request of a law enforcement
15 officer in the format specified under RCW 46.30.030.

16 (b) A person who drives a motor vehicle that is required to be
17 registered in another state that requires drivers and owners of
18 vehicles in that state to maintain insurance or financial
19 responsibility shall, when requested by a law enforcement officer,

1 provide evidence of financial responsibility or insurance as is
2 required by the laws of the state in which the vehicle is registered.

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

7 (d) Failure to provide proof of motor vehicle insurance or proof of
8 the exemption under section 2 of this act is a traffic infraction and
9 is subject to penalties as set by the supreme court under RCW 46.63.110
10 or community service.

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

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

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

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

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

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.30 RCW
36 to read as follows:

37 (1) A low-income person may apply for an exemption from the
38 requirements of this chapter with the office of the insurance

1 commissioner. For purposes of this section, "low-income person" means
2 a person whose household income does not exceed one hundred twenty
3 percent of the federal poverty level.

4 (2) The insurance commissioner shall grant a six-month renewable
5 certificate of exemption to a low-income person, and other licensed
6 drivers in the household, as follows:

7 (a) The person files an affidavit with the commissioner swearing
8 that his or her household income does not exceed the one hundred twenty
9 percent of the federal poverty level;

10 (b) The exemption applies only to one vehicle per household
11 specified on the certificate;

12 (c) The person applying for the certificate cannot have any moving
13 violations or at-fault accidents within the previous three years; and

14 (d) The vehicle must be certified to be in good operating condition
15 by a person licensed to do automobile repairs or inspections in
16 Washington state.

17 (3) The commissioner may revoke or not renew a certificate issued
18 under this section if the commissioner finds that the person does not
19 meet the income requirements or otherwise does not meet the criteria
20 under subsection (2) of this section.

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