

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1212

56th Legislature  
1999 Regular Session

Passed by the House February 19, 1999  
Yeas 95 Nays 0

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Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House of  
Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 13, 1999  
Yeas 45 Nays 0

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President of the Senate

Approved

CERTIFICATE

We, Dean R. Foster and Timothy A. Martin, Co-Chief Clerks of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1212** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

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Chief Clerk

FILED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor of the State of Washington

Secretary of State  
State of Washington

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1212**

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Passed Legislature - 1999 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**56th Legislature**

**1999 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Eickmeyer, Clements, Mielke, Benson, Voloria, Haigh, O'Brien, Doumit, Murray, Anderson, Conway, Constantine, Fisher, Hatfield, Dunshee, H. Sommers and Kenney)

Read first time 01/28/1999.

1       AN ACT Relating to the extension of the validity of a driver's  
2 license that expires while the driver is outside the state or where the  
3 driver is a spouse or dependent child of a member of the armed forces;  
4 amending RCW 46.20.027, 46.20.116, and 46.20.120; creating a new  
5 section; and declaring an emergency.

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

7       **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.20.027 and 1967 c 129 s 1 are each amended to read  
8 as follows:

9       A Washington state motor vehicle driver's license issued to any  
10 person serving in the armed forces of the United States, if valid and  
11 in force and effect while such person is serving in the armed forces,  
12 shall remain in full force and effect so long as such service continues  
13 unless the same is sooner suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as  
14 provided by law and for not to exceed ninety days following the date on  
15 which the holder of such driver's license is honorably separated from  
16 service in the armed forces of the United States. A Washington state  
17 driver's license issued to the spouse or dependent child of such  
18 service member likewise remains in full force and effect if the person  
19 is residing with the service member.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.20.116 and 1993 c 452 s 2 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       The department shall plainly label each license "not valid for  
4 identification purposes" where:

5       (1) The applicant is unable to prove his or her identity as  
6 provided in RCW 46.20.035; or

7       (2) The applicant is renewing his or her license by mail under RCW  
8 46.20.120 and the department does not have a digital (reproducible)  
9 photograph on file.

10       **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.20.120 and 1990 c 9 s 1 are each amended to read as  
11 follows:

12       ~~((No new driver's license may be issued and no previously issued~~  
13 ~~license may be renewed until the applicant therefor has successfully~~  
14 ~~passed))~~ An applicant for a new or renewed driver's license must  
15 successfully pass a driver licensing examination to qualify for a  
16 driver's license. The department shall give examinations at places and  
17 times reasonably available to the people of this state. ((However,))

18       (1) Waiver. The department may waive:

19       (a) All or any part of the examination of any person applying for  
20 the renewal of a driver's license ((except when)) unless the department  
21 determines that ((an)) the applicant ((for a driver's license)) is not  
22 qualified to hold a driver's license under this title((. The  
23 department may also waive)); or

24       (b) The actual demonstration of the ability to operate a motor  
25 vehicle ((by a person who)) if the applicant:

26       (i) Surrenders a valid driver's license issued by the person's  
27 previous home state; and ((who))

28       (ii) Is otherwise qualified to be licensed. ((For a new license))

29       (2) Fee. Each applicant for a new license must pay an examination  
30 ~~((a))~~ fee of seven dollars ~~((shall be paid by each applicant,)).~~

31       (a) The examination fee is in addition to the fee charged for  
32 issuance of the license.

33       ~~((A))~~ (b) "New license ((is one))" means a license issued to a  
34 driver;

35       (i) Who has not been previously licensed in this state; or ((to a  
36 driver))

37       (ii) Whose last previous Washington license has been expired for  
38 more than four years.

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

5       ~~Any person who is outside the state at the time his or her driver's~~  
6 ~~license expires or who is unable to renew the license due to any~~  
7 ~~incapacity may renew the license within sixty days after returning to~~  
8 ~~this state or within sixty days after the termination of any such~~  
9 ~~incapacity without the payment of the penalty fee.~~

10       ~~The department shall provide for giving examinations at places and~~  
11 ~~times reasonably available to the people of this state.)~~

12       (3) A person whose license expired or will expire on or after  
13 January 1, 1998, while he or she was or is living outside the state  
14 may:

15       (a) Apply to the department to extend the validity of his or her  
16 license for no more than twelve months. If the person establishes to  
17 the department's satisfaction that he or she is unable to return to  
18 Washington before the date his or her license expires, the department  
19 shall extend the person's license. The department may grant  
20 consecutive extensions, but in no event may the cumulative total of  
21 extensions exceed twelve months. An extension granted under this  
22 section does not change the expiration date of the license for purposes  
23 of RCW 46.20.181. The department shall charge a fee of five dollars  
24 for each license extension;

25       (b) Apply to the department to renew his or her license by mail.  
26 If the person establishes to the department's satisfaction that he or  
27 she is unable to return to Washington within twelve months of the date  
28 that his or her license expires, the department shall renew the  
29 person's license by mail. If a person qualifies for a mail-in renewal  
30 he or she is not required to pass an examination nor provide an updated  
31 photograph. He or she must, however, pay the fee required by RCW  
32 46.20.181 plus an additional five-dollar mail-in renewal fee. A  
33 license renewed by mail that does not include a photograph of the  
34 licensee must be labeled "not valid for identification purposes."

35       (4) If a person's driver's license is extended or renewed under  
36 subsection (3) of this section while he or she is outside the state, he  
37 or she must submit to the examination required under this section  
38 within sixty days of returning to this state. The department will not  
39 assess a penalty or examination fee for the examination.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.**    (1) If the driver's license of a spouse or  
2 dependent of a member of the armed forces expired between January 1,  
3 1998, and the effective date of this act and the department did not  
4 renew that person's license, the department shall:

5        (a) Renew that person's license if otherwise allowable under this  
6 chapter;

7        (b) Renew the license for an additional four-year term as otherwise  
8 provided under RCW 46.20.181; and

9        (c) Waive the late renewal fee authorized under RCW 46.20.120.

10       (2) The department shall waive the late renewal fee authorized  
11 under RCW 46.20.120 for drivers who qualify for license renewal or  
12 extension under RCW 46.20.120(4) if the driver's license expired before  
13 the effective date of this act.

14       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 5.**    This act is necessary for the immediate  
15 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
16 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect  
17 immediately.

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