
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5280

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Franklin, Winsley, Wojahn, Kline, Goings, Thibaudeau, Stevens, Rasmussen, Benton, Prentice, Heavey, Gardner, Shin and Oke)

Read first time 02/25/1999.

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) When the department sends a vehicle license renewal notice, it
12 shall also provide notice of the requirement for written proof of
13 meeting the financial responsibility requirements in order to renew the
14 license.

15 (3) The department shall not renew a vehicle license due for
16 renewal January 1, 2000, or after unless the applicant provides written
17 proof of meeting the financial responsibility requirements for
18 operating a motor vehicle as provided in RCW 46.30.020.

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

3 (1) Upon receipt of the application and proper fee for an original
4 vehicle license, the director shall make a recheck of the application
5 and in the event that there is any error in the application it may be
6 returned to the county auditor or other agent to effectively secure the
7 correction of such error, who shall return the same corrected to the
8 director.

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

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

29 (4) Every applicant for renewal of a vehicle license due for
30 renewal January 1, 2000, or after shall provide current proof of
31 financial responsibility to operate a vehicle as required in RCW
32 46.30.020. The department may adopt rules regarding valid proof of
33 financial responsibility for persons renewing a vehicle license. The
34 department shall reimburse its agents, including county auditors, for
35 the mailing costs of returning license renewal applications that are
36 submitted without proof of financial responsibility.

37 (5) Application for the annual renewal of a vehicle license number
38 plate to the director or the director's agents shall not be required
39 for those vehicles owned, rented, or leased by the state of Washington,

1 or by any county, city, town, school district, or other political
2 subdivision of the state of Washington or a governing body of an Indian
3 tribe located within this state and recognized as a governmental entity
4 by the United States department of the interior.

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

7 Any person who knowingly provides false evidence of financial
8 responsibility to a law enforcement officer (~~(or)~~), to a court, or to
9 the department of licensing on an application for renewal of a vehicle
10 license, including an expired or canceled insurance policy, bond, or
11 certificate of deposit is guilty of a misdemeanor.

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