
SENATE BILL 5087

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Winsley, Rasmussen, Gardner and McAuliffe

Read first time 01/10/2001. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the issuance of license plates for recipients of
2 the law enforcement medal of honor or their spouses; and reenacting and
3 amending RCW 46.16.305.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.305 and 1997 c 291 s 6 and 1997 c 241 s 10 are
6 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 The department shall continue to issue the categories of special
8 plates issued by the department under the sections repealed under
9 section 12 (1) through (7), chapter 250, Laws of 1990. Special license
10 plates issued under those repealed sections before January 1, 1991, are
11 valid to the extent and under the conditions provided in those repealed
12 sections. The following conditions, limitations, or requirements apply
13 to certain special license plates issued after January 1, 1991:

14 (1) A horseless carriage plate and a plate or plates issued for
15 collectors' vehicles more than thirty years old, upon payment of the
16 initial fees required by law and the additional special license plate
17 fee established by the department, are valid for the life of the
18 vehicle for which application is approved by the department. When a

1 single plate is issued, it shall be displayed on the rear of the
2 vehicle.

3 (2) The department may issue special license plates denoting
4 amateur radio operator status only to persons having a valid official
5 radio operator license issued by the federal communications commission.

6 (3) The department shall issue one set of special license plates to
7 each resident of this state who has been awarded the Congressional
8 Medal of Honor for use on a passenger vehicle registered to that
9 person. The department shall issue the plate without the payment of
10 licensing fees and motor vehicle excise tax.

11 (4) The department may issue for use on only one motor vehicle
12 owned by the qualified applicant special license plates denoting that
13 the recipient of the plate is a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor
14 on December 7, 1941, to persons meeting all of the following criteria:

15 (a) Is a resident of this state;

16 (b) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7,
17 1941;

18 (c) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55
19 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or
20 offshore at a distance not to exceed three miles;

21 (d) Received an honorable discharge from the United States Armed
22 Forces; and

23 (e) Is certified by a Washington state chapter of the Pearl Harbor
24 survivors association as satisfying the qualifications in (c) of this
25 subsection.

26 The department may issue such plates to the surviving spouse of any
27 deceased Pearl Harbor survivor who met the requirements of this
28 subsection. If the surviving spouse remarries, he or she shall return
29 the special plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for
30 regular plates. The surviving spouse must be a resident of this state.

31 The department shall issue these plates upon payment by the
32 applicant of all other license fees, but the department may not set or
33 charge an additional fee for these special license plates.

34 (5)(a) The department shall issue one set of special license plates
35 to each resident of this state who has been awarded the law enforcement
36 medal of honor under chapter 41.72 RCW for use on a passenger vehicle
37 registered to that person.

38 (b) The department may issue these plates to the surviving spouse
39 of any person awarded the law enforcement medal of honor posthumously.

1 If the surviving spouse remarries, he or she shall return the special
2 plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for regular
3 plates. The surviving spouse must be a resident of this state.

4 (6) The department shall replace, free of charge, special license
5 plates issued under subsections (3) and (4) of this section if they are
6 lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed. Such plates shall remain
7 with the persons upon transfer or other disposition of the vehicle for
8 which they were initially issued, and may be used on another vehicle
9 registered to the recipient in accordance with the provisions of RCW
10 46.16.316(1).

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