
SENATE BILL 6248

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators Jacobsen, Kohl-Welles and Kline

Read first time 01/14/2002. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to funding bicycle and pedestrian safety; amending
2 RCW 46.16.313; reenacting and amending RCW 46.16.305; adding a new
3 section to chapter 46.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.16
4 RCW; and creating a new section.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that bicycling and
7 walking are becoming increasingly popular in Washington as clean and
8 efficient modes of transportation, as recreational activities, and as
9 organized sports. Future plans for the state's transportation system
10 will require increased access and safety for bicycles and pedestrians
11 on our common roadways, and federal transportation legislation and
12 funding programs have created strong incentives to implement these
13 changes quickly. As a result, many more people are likely to take up
14 bicycling in Washington both as a leisure activity and as a convenient,
15 inexpensive form of transportation. Bicyclists are more vulnerable to
16 injury and accident than motorists, and should be knowledgeable about
17 traffic laws, be highly visible and predictable when riding in traffic,
18 and be encouraged to wear bicycle safety helmets. Hundreds of
19 bicyclists and pedestrians are seriously injured every year in

1 accidents, and millions of dollars are spent on health care costs
2 associated with these accidents. There is clear evidence that
3 organized training in the rules and techniques of safe and effective
4 cycling can significantly reduce the incidence of serious injury and
5 accidents, increase cooperation among road users, and significantly
6 increase the incidence of bicycle helmet use, particularly among
7 minors. A reduction in accidents benefits the entire community.
8 Therefore, it is appropriate for businesses and community organizations
9 to provide donations to bicycle and pedestrian safety training
10 programs.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 "Cooper Jones Act license plates" means license plates that display
14 the symbol of bicycle safety created in section 3 of this act.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 In cooperation with the Washington state patrol and the department
18 of licensing, the traffic safety commission shall create and design,
19 and the department shall issue, a special license plate displaying a
20 symbol of bicycle safety that may be used in lieu of regular or
21 personalized license plates for motor vehicles required to display two
22 motor vehicle license plates, excluding vehicles registered under
23 chapter 46.87 RCW, upon terms and conditions established by the
24 department. These special plates will honor Cooper Jones and provide
25 funding for bicycle safety education.

26 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.16.313 and 1997 c 291 s 8 are each amended to read
27 as follows:

28 (1) The department may establish a fee for each type of special
29 license plates issued under RCW 46.16.301(1) (a), (b), or (c), as
30 existing before amendment by section 5, chapter 291, Laws of 1997, in
31 an amount calculated to offset the cost of production of the special
32 license plates and the administration of this program. ~~((Until~~
33 ~~December 31, 1997,))~~ The fee shall not exceed ~~((thirty five dollars,~~
34 ~~but effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on~~
35 ~~January 1, 1998, the department may adjust the fee to no more than))~~
36 forty dollars. This fee is in addition to all other fees required to

1 register and license the vehicle for which the plates have been
2 requested. All such additional special license plate fees collected by
3 the department shall be deposited in the state treasury and credited to
4 the motor vehicle fund.

5 ~~(2) ((Until December 31, 1997, in addition to all fees and taxes~~
6 ~~required to be paid upon application, registration, and renewal~~
7 ~~registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a collegiate license~~
8 ~~plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The department shall deduct~~
9 ~~an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee collected under this~~
10 ~~subsection for administration and collection expenses incurred by it.~~
11 ~~The remaining proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be~~
12 ~~remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper~~
13 ~~identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the~~
14 ~~funds to the appropriate collegiate license plate fund as provided in~~
15 ~~RCW 28B.10.890.~~

16 ~~(3) Effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on~~
17 ~~January 1, 1998,)) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be~~
18 ~~paid upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder~~
19 ~~of a collegiate license plate shall pay an initial fee of forty~~
20 ~~dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed twelve~~
21 ~~dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for administration~~
22 ~~and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall~~
23 ~~be remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper~~
24 ~~identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the~~
25 ~~funds to the appropriate collegiate license plate fund as provided in~~
26 ~~RCW 28B.10.890.~~

27 ~~((+4)) (3) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on~~
28 ~~January 1, 1999, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid~~
29 ~~upon renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a~~
30 ~~collegiate license plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The~~
31 ~~department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee~~
32 ~~collected under this subsection for administration and collection~~
33 ~~expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be remitted to~~
34 ~~the custody of the state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed~~
35 ~~report. The state treasurer shall credit the funds to the appropriate~~
36 ~~collegiate license plate fund as provided in RCW 28B.10.890.~~

37 ~~((+5)) (4) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid~~
38 ~~upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a~~
39 ~~special baseball stadium license plate shall pay an initial fee of~~

1 forty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed
2 twelve dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for
3 administration and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining
4 proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be distributed to
5 a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest payments
6 on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as
7 defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary
8 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW
9 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds
10 to the state general fund.

11 ~~((+6))~~ (5) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on
12 January 1, 1999, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
13 upon renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a special
14 baseball stadium license plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The
15 department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee
16 collected under this subsection for administration and collection
17 expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be distributed
18 to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest
19 payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium,
20 as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary
21 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW
22 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds
23 to the state general fund.

24 (6) Effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on
25 January 1, 2003, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
26 upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a
27 Cooper Jones license plate shall pay an initial fee of twenty-five
28 dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed twelve
29 dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for administration
30 and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall
31 be remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper
32 identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the
33 proceeds to the bicycle and pedestrian safety account as established in
34 RCW 43.59.150.

35 (7) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on January
36 1, 2003, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
37 renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a Cooper Jones
38 license plate shall, upon application, pay a fee of twenty dollars.
39 The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two dollars of each

1 fee collected under this subsection for administration and collection
2 expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be remitted to
3 the custody of the state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed
4 report. The state treasurer shall credit the funds to the bicycle and
5 pedestrian safety account as established in RCW 43.59.150.

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

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

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

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

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

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

34 (a) Is a resident of this state;

35 (b) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7,
36 1941;

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

4 (d) Received an honorable discharge from the United States Armed
5 Forces; and

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

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

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

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

21 (b) The department may issue these plates to the surviving spouse
22 of any person awarded the law enforcement medal of honor posthumously.
23 If the surviving spouse remarries, he or she shall return the special
24 plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for regular
25 plates. The surviving spouse must be a resident of this state.

26 (6) The department shall replace, free of charge, special license
27 plates issued under subsections (3) and (4) of this section if they are
28 lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed. Such plates shall remain
29 with the persons upon transfer or other disposition of the vehicle for
30 which they were initially issued, and may be used on another vehicle
31 registered to the recipient in accordance with the provisions of RCW
32 46.16.316(1).

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