

HOUSE BILL REPORT

SSB 6148

As Reported by House Committee On:
Transportation

Title: An act relating to special license plates to honor law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty.

Brief Description: Authorizing special license plates to honor law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Highways & Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Horn, Brandland, Esser, Oke, Eide, Winsley and Hewitt).

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Transportation: 2/25/04, 3/1/04 [DPA].

Brief Summary of Substitute Bill
(As Amended by House Committee)

- Establishes a law enforcement memorial special license plate.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Majority Report: Do pass as amended. Signed by 27 members: Representatives Murray, Chair; Rockefeller, Vice Chair; G. Simpson, Vice Chair; Erickson, Ranking Minority Member; Jarrett, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Armstrong, Bailey, Campbell, Clibborn, Cooper, Dickerson, Flannigan, Hankins, Hatfield, Hudgins, Kristiansen, Lovick, Mielke, Morris, Nixon, Rodne, Romero, Schindler, Shabro, Wallace, Wood and Woods.

Staff: Page Scott (786-7301).

Background:

The Special License Plate Review Board (SLPRB) was created in 2003 by ESHB 1592. The SLPRB is charged with reviewing special license plate applications from groups requesting the creation of a special license plate series. Upon review and approval, the SLPRB forwards the application to the Legislature.

On January 8, 2004, the SLPRB formally approved the Law Enforcement Memorial special license plate application.

Summary of Amended Bill:

Beginning with vehicle registrations due or to become due in January 2005, the Department of Licensing (DOL) must offer a special license plate displaying a symbol honoring law enforcement officers in Washington who were killed in the line of duty.

An applicant for a Law Enforcement Memorial license plate must pay an initial fee of \$40 and a renewal fee each year thereafter of \$30. The DOL may deduct up to \$12 of the initial fee and up to \$2 of the renewal fee for administration and collection expenses. The remaining revenue generated from the plate sales must be deposited into the motor vehicle account until the state has been reimbursed for the implementation costs. Upon reimbursement, the revenue must be deposited into the law enforcement memorial account.

The DOL must enter into a contract with a qualified nonprofit organization requiring that the organization use the revenue generated by the license plate sales to provide support and assistance to survivors and families of law enforcement officers in Washington who were killed in the line of duty and to construct, maintain, and utilize a memorial on the state capitol grounds to honor fallen officers.

Amended Bill Compared to Substitute Bill:

References to "motor" vehicle registration in section 3 are removed in order to be consistent with section 1 allowing these special license plates to be available for vehicles other than "motor" vehicles.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date of Amended Bill: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: None.

Testimony Against: None.

Persons Testifying: None.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.