
HOUSE BILL 1293

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Simpson, Armstrong, Murray, Hankins and Hudgins

Read first time 01/22/2003. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to flat license plates; and amending RCW 46.16.230.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.230 and 1992 c 7 s 41 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) The director shall furnish to all persons making satisfactory
6 application for vehicle license as provided by law, two identical
7 vehicle license number plates each containing the vehicle license
8 number to be displayed on such vehicle as by law required: PROVIDED,
9 That if the vehicle to be licensed is a trailer, semitrailer, or
10 motorcycle only one vehicle license number plate shall be issued for
11 each thereof. The number and plate shall be of such size and color and
12 shall contain such symbols indicative of the registration period for
13 which the same is issued and of the state of Washington, as shall be
14 determined and prescribed by the director. Any vehicle license number
15 plate or plates issued to a dealer shall contain thereon a sufficient
16 and satisfactory indication that such plates have been issued to a
17 dealer in vehicles. All vehicle license number plates may be obtained
18 by the director from the metal working plant of a state correctional

1 facility or from any source in accordance with existing state of
2 Washington purchasing procedures.

3 (2) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, the
4 director may, in his or her discretion and under such rules and
5 regulations as he or she may prescribe, adopt a type of vehicle license
6 number plates whereby the same shall be used as long as legible on the
7 vehicle for which issued, with provision for tabs or emblems to be
8 attached thereto or elsewhere on the vehicle to signify renewals, in
9 which event the term "vehicle license number plate" as used in any
10 enactment shall be deemed to include in addition to such plate the tab
11 or emblem signifying renewal except when such plate contains the
12 designation of the current year without reference to any tab or emblem.
13 Renewals shall be effected by the issuance and display of such tab or
14 emblem.

15 (3) The department shall solicit a request for proposal for
16 implementing a flat, digitally printed license plate system. The
17 department must report back to the legislature by December 2003 on the
18 results of the request for proposal process. The report must, at a
19 minimum, inform the legislature on who responded to the request for
20 proposal, the specifications of each proposal and the associated costs,
21 and the department's recommendation on which proposal is preferred,
22 accompanied with a proposed implementation plan. The department may
23 not proceed with implementation of a flat, digitally printed license
24 plate system until it has received legislative approval.

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