
HOUSE BILL 1381

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Ericksen, Shabro, Jarrett, McDonald, Schindler, Kristiansen, Bailey and Buck

Read first time 01/24/2003. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to issuing flat license plates; and amending RCW
2 46.16.230.

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

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

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

1 (2) All vehicle license number plates ((may be obtained by the
2 director from the metal working plant of a state correctional facility
3 or from any source in accordance with existing state of Washington
4 purchasing procedures.)) issued by the department after the effective
5 date of this act must be flat, digitally printed license number plates,
6 and the department shall contract with a private vendor for the
7 manufacturing of the plates. The digitally printed license number
8 plates may include bar codes to facilitate distribution and inventory
9 control.

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

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