
SENATE BILL 6148

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By Senators Haugen, Horn, Brandland, Esser, Oke, Eide, Winsley and Hewitt

Read first time 01/13/2004. Referred to Committee on Highways & Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to special license plates to honor law enforcement
2 officers in Washington killed in the line of duty; amending RCW
3 46.16.313 and 46.16.316; and adding new sections to chapter 46.16 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 The department shall issue a special license plate displaying a
8 symbol, approved by the special license plate review board, honoring
9 law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty. The
10 special license plate may be used in lieu of regular or personalized
11 license plates for motor vehicles required to display two motor vehicle
12 license plates or for motorcycles, excluding vehicles registered under
13 chapter 46.87 RCW, upon the terms and conditions established by the
14 department.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 "Law enforcement memorial license plates" means license plates

1 issued under section 1 of this act that display a symbol honoring law
2 enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.16.313 and 1997 c 291 s 8 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) The department may establish a fee for each type of special
6 license plates issued under RCW 46.16.301(1) (a), (b), or (c), as
7 existing before amendment by section 5, chapter 291, Laws of 1997, in
8 an amount calculated to offset the cost of production of the special
9 license plates and the administration of this program. Until December
10 31, 1997, the fee shall not exceed thirty-five dollars, but effective
11 with vehicle registrations due or to become due on January 1, 1998, the
12 department may adjust the fee to no more than forty dollars. This fee
13 is in addition to all other fees required to register and license the
14 vehicle for which the plates have been requested. All such additional
15 special license plate fees collected by the department shall be
16 deposited in the state treasury and credited to the motor vehicle fund.

17 (2) Until December 31, 1997, in addition to all fees and taxes
18 required to be paid upon application, registration, and renewal
19 registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a collegiate license
20 plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The department shall deduct
21 an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee collected under this
22 subsection for administration and collection expenses incurred by it.
23 The remaining proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be
24 remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper
25 identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the
26 funds to the appropriate collegiate license plate fund as provided in
27 RCW 28B.10.890.

28 (3) Effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on
29 January 1, 1998, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
30 upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a
31 collegiate license plate shall pay an initial fee of forty dollars.
32 The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars of
33 each fee collected under this subsection for administration and
34 collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be
35 remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with a proper
36 identifying detailed report. The state treasurer shall credit the

1 funds to the appropriate collegiate license plate fund as provided in
2 RCW 28B.10.890.

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

13 (5) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
14 application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a
15 special baseball stadium license plate shall pay an initial fee of
16 forty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed
17 twelve dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for
18 administration and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining
19 proceeds, minus the cost of plate production, shall be distributed to
20 a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest payments
21 on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium, as
22 defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary
23 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW
24 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds
25 to the state general fund.

26 (6) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on January
27 1, 1999, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
28 renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a special
29 baseball stadium license plate shall pay a fee of thirty dollars. The
30 department shall deduct an amount not to exceed two dollars of each fee
31 collected under this subsection for administration and collection
32 expenses incurred by it. The remaining proceeds shall be distributed
33 to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and interest
34 payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball stadium,
35 as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary
36 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW
37 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds
38 to the state general fund.

1 (7) Effective with vehicle registrations due or to become due on
2 January 1, 2005, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid
3 upon application and registration of a motor vehicle, the holder of a
4 "law enforcement memorial" license plate shall pay an initial fee of
5 forty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed
6 twelve dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for
7 administration and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining
8 proceeds shall be remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with
9 a proper identifying detailed report. Pursuant to RCW 46.16.755, the
10 state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor vehicle account
11 until the department determines that the state has been reimbursed for
12 the cost of implementing the law enforcement memorial special license
13 plate. Upon the determination by the department that the state has
14 been reimbursed, the treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the law
15 enforcement memorial account established under section 4 of this act.

16 (8) Effective with annual renewals due or to become due on January
17 1, 2006, in addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon
18 renewal of a motor vehicle registration, the holder of a "law
19 enforcement memorial" license plate shall, upon application, pay a fee
20 of thirty dollars. The department shall deduct an amount not to exceed
21 two dollars of each fee collected under this subsection for
22 administration and collection expenses incurred by it. The remaining
23 proceeds shall be remitted to the custody of the state treasurer with
24 a proper identifying detailed report. Pursuant to RCW 46.16.755, the
25 state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor vehicle account
26 until the department determines that the state has been reimbursed for
27 the cost of implementing the law enforcement memorial special license
28 plate. Upon the determination by the department that the state has
29 been reimbursed, the treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the law
30 enforcement memorial account established under section 4 of this act.

31 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 46.16 RCW
32 to read as follows:

33 (1) The law enforcement memorial account is created in the custody
34 of the state treasurer. Upon the department's determination that the
35 state has been reimbursed for the cost of implementing the law
36 enforcement memorial special license plate, all receipts, except as
37 provided in RCW 46.16.313 (7) and (8), from law enforcement memorial

1 license plates must be deposited into the account. Only the director
2 of the department of licensing or the director's designee may authorize
3 expenditures from the account. The account is subject to allotment
4 procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not
5 required for expenditures.

6 (2) Funds in the account must be disbursed subject to the following
7 conditions and limitations:

8 (a) Pursuant to the requirements set out in RCW 46.16.765 the
9 department must contract with a qualified nonprofit organization to
10 provide support and assistance to survivors and families of law
11 enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty and to
12 organize, finance, fund, construct, utilize, and maintain a memorial on
13 the state capitol grounds to honor those fallen officers.

14 (b) For the purposes of this section, a "qualified nonprofit
15 organization" means a not-for-profit corporation incorporated and
16 operating exclusively in Washington that has received a determination
17 of tax exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the federal internal
18 revenue code. The organization must have been established for the
19 express purposes of providing support and assistance to the survivors
20 and families of law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the
21 line of duty and to organize, finance, fund, construct, utilize, and
22 maintain a memorial on the state capitol grounds to honor those fallen
23 officers.

24 (c) The qualified nonprofit must meet all requirements set out in
25 RCW 46.16.765.

26 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.16.316 and 1997 c 291 s 10 are each amended to read
27 as follows:

28 Except as provided in RCW 46.16.305:

29 (1) When a person who has been issued a special license plate or
30 plates under section 1 of this act or RCW 46.16.301 as it existed
31 before amendment by section 5, chapter 291, Laws of 1997, sells,
32 trades, or otherwise transfers or releases ownership of the vehicle
33 upon which the special license plate or plates have been displayed, he
34 or she shall immediately report the transfer of such plate or plates to
35 an acquired vehicle or vehicle eligible for such plates pursuant to
36 departmental rule, or he or she shall surrender such plates to the
37 department immediately if such surrender is required by departmental

1 rule. If a person applies for a transfer of the plate or plates to
2 another eligible vehicle, a transfer fee of five dollars shall be
3 charged in addition to all other applicable fees. Such transfer fees
4 shall be deposited in the motor vehicle fund. Failure to surrender the
5 plates when required is a traffic infraction.

6 (2) If the special license plate or plates issued by the department
7 become lost, defaced, damaged, or destroyed, application for a
8 replacement special license plate or plates shall be made and fees paid
9 as provided by law for the replacement of regular license plates.

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