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HOUSE BILL 2982

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State of Washington

59th Legislature

2006 Regular Session

By Representatives Appleton, Jarrett and Simpson; by request of Washington State Patrol

Read first time 01/17/2006. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the minimum height requirement for the  
2 attachment of vehicle license plates; and reenacting and amending RCW  
3 46.16.240.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.240 and 1987 c 330 s 704 and 1987 c 142 s 3 are  
6 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 The vehicle license number plates shall be attached conspicuously  
8 at the front and rear of each vehicle for which the same are issued and  
9 in such a manner that they can be plainly seen and read at all times(~~+~~  
10 ~~PROVIDED, That~~)). However, if only one license number plate is legally  
11 issued for any vehicle such plate shall be conspicuously attached to  
12 the rear of such vehicle. Each vehicle license number plate shall be  
13 placed or hung in a horizontal position at a distance of not (~~less~~  
14 ~~than one foot nor~~)) more than four feet from the ground and shall be  
15 kept clean so as to be plainly seen and read at all times(~~+~~~~PROVIDED,~~  
16 ~~HOWEVER, That~~)). In cases where the body construction of the vehicle  
17 is such that compliance with this section is impossible, permission to  
18 deviate therefrom may be granted by the state patrol. It shall be  
19 unlawful to display upon the front or rear of any vehicle, vehicle

1 license number plate or plates other than those furnished by the  
2 director for such vehicle or to display upon any vehicle any vehicle  
3 license number plate or plates which have been in any manner changed,  
4 altered, disfigured or have become illegible. License plate frames may  
5 be used on vehicle license number plates only if the frames do not  
6 obscure license tabs or identifying letters or numbers on the plates  
7 and the plates can be plainly seen and read at all times. It is  
8 unlawful to use any holders, frames, or any materials that in any  
9 manner change, alter, or make the vehicle license number plates  
10 illegible. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle  
11 unless there shall be displayed thereon valid vehicle license number  
12 plates attached as herein provided.

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