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**Transportation Committee**

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**HB 1046**

**Brief Description:** Meeting financial responsibility requirements for automobiles.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Takko, Campbell, Lovick, O'Brien, Pettigrew, Springer, Blake, Morrell, Dunn and Moeller.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Requires proof of insurance or other proof of financial responsibility in order to renew a vehicle license, beginning January 1, 2008.
- Makes knowingly providing false information to the Department of Licensing on an application for renewal of a vehicle license a misdemeanor.

**Hearing Date:** 1/18/07

**Staff:** David Munnecke (786-7315).

**Background:**

Persons operating vehicles in the state of Washington are required to carry proof that they are covered by a motor vehicle liability insurance policy, self-insurance, a certificate of deposit, or a liability bond. Insurance companies that issue or renew motor vehicle liability insurance policies must provide the policyholder with an insurance identification card.

Each year the owner of a motor vehicle is required to renew the vehicle license and pay the applicable fees and taxes. Currently, there is no requirement that a vehicle owner offer proof of insurance at the time the vehicle registration is issued or renewed.

Failure to provide proof of insurance when requested to do so by a law enforcement officer creates a presumption that the person does not have insurance. Failure to provide proof of insurance is a traffic infraction.

**Summary of Bill:**

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The owner of a vehicle wishing to renew the license of the vehicle must provide proof of motor vehicle liability insurance, a certificate of self-insurance, or proof of coverage under a liability bond.

Knowingly providing false information to the Department of Licensing on an application for renewal of a vehicle license is made a misdemeanor.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on 1/18/07.

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