
HOUSE BILL 1971

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Ross, Ahern, Haler, Strow, Newhouse, Hinkle,
McCune and Campbell

Read first time 02/02/2007. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to prohibiting vehicle and driver's license renewal
2 due to unpaid traffic fines; amending RCW 46.20.031; and adding a new
3 section 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 director or the director's agents shall not renew a vehicle
8 license unless the applicant has paid all monetary penalties for
9 traffic infractions. This section does not apply to an applicant who
10 is in compliance with a payment plan for monetary penalties with the
11 court. For purposes of this section, "payment plan" has the same
12 meaning as in RCW 46.63.110(6).

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.20.031 and 2002 c 279 s 3 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 The department shall not issue a driver's license to a person:
16 (1) Who is under the age of sixteen years;
17 (2) Whose driving privilege has been withheld unless and until the
18 department may authorize the driving privilege under RCW 46.20.311;

1 (3) Who has been classified as an alcoholic, drug addict, alcohol
2 abuser, or drug abuser by a program approved by the department of
3 social and health services. The department may, however, issue a
4 license if the person:

5 (a) Has been granted a deferred prosecution under chapter 10.05
6 RCW; or

7 (b) Is satisfactorily participating in or has successfully
8 completed an alcohol or drug abuse treatment program approved by the
9 department of social and health services and has established control of
10 his or her alcohol or drug abuse problem;

11 (4) Who has previously been adjudged (~~to be mentally ill or~~
12 ~~insane,~~) as a person with mental illness or (~~to be~~) incompetent due
13 to a mental disability or disease. The department shall, however,
14 issue a license to the person if he or she otherwise qualifies and:

15 (a) Has been restored to competency by the methods provided by law;
16 or

17 (b) The superior court finds the person able to operate a motor
18 vehicle with safety upon the highways during such incompetency;

19 (5) Who has not passed the driver's licensing examination required
20 by RCW 46.20.120 and 46.20.305, if applicable;

21 (6) Who is required under the laws of this state to deposit proof
22 of financial responsibility and who has not deposited such proof;

23 (7) Who is unable to safely operate a motor vehicle upon the
24 highways due to a physical or mental disability. The department's
25 conclusion that a person is barred from licensing under this subsection
26 must be reasonable and be based upon good and substantial evidence.
27 This determination is subject to review by a court of competent
28 jurisdiction;

29 (8) Who has not paid all monetary penalties for traffic infractions
30 unless the person is in compliance with a payment plan with the court.
31 For purposes of this subsection, "payment plan" has the same meaning as
32 in RCW 46.63.110(6).

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