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HOUSE BILL 2096

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Rolfes, Wood, Herrera, Eddy, and Van De Wege

Read first time 02/10/09. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1            AN ACT Relating to the attachment of vehicle license plates; and  
2 amending RCW 46.16.240.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.240 and 2006 c 326 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            The vehicle license number plates shall be attached conspicuously  
7 at the front and rear of each vehicle for which the same are issued and  
8 in such a manner that they can be plainly seen and read at all times.  
9 However, if only one license number plate is legally issued for any  
10 vehicle such plate shall be conspicuously attached to the rear of such  
11 vehicle. Each vehicle license number plate shall be placed or hung in  
12 a horizontal position at a distance of not more than four feet from the  
13 ground and shall be kept clean so as to be plainly seen and read at all  
14 times. In cases where the body construction of the vehicle is such  
15 that compliance with this section is ((impossible)) impractical,  
16 permission to deviate therefrom may be granted by the state patrol. It  
17 shall be unlawful to display upon the front or rear of any vehicle,  
18 vehicle license number plate or plates other than those furnished by  
19 the director for such vehicle or to display upon any vehicle any

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

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