
SENATE BILL 5697

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senator Honeyford

Read first time 01/29/09. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the issuance of horseless carriage plates to
2 trailers more than forty years old; and amending RCW 46.16.305.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.305 and 2008 c 72 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The department shall continue to issue the categories of special
7 plates issued by the department under the sections repealed under
8 section 12 (1) through (7), chapter 250, Laws of 1990. Special license
9 plates issued under those repealed sections before January 1, 1991, are
10 valid to the extent and under the conditions provided in those repealed
11 sections. The following conditions, limitations, or requirements apply
12 to certain special license plates issued after January 1, 1991:

13 (1) A horseless carriage plate and a plate or plates issued for
14 collectors' vehicles more than thirty years old, upon payment of the
15 initial fees required by law and the additional special license plate
16 fee established by the department, are valid for the life of the
17 vehicle for which application is approved by the department. When a
18 single plate is issued, it shall be displayed on the rear of the
19 vehicle. A horseless carriage plate may be issued for any trailer more

1 than forty years old. A trailer displaying a horseless carriage plate
2 must only be towed by a motor vehicle that is also more than forty
3 years old.

4 (2) The department may issue special license plates denoting
5 amateur radio operator status only to persons having a valid official
6 radio operator license issued by the federal communications commission.

7 (3) The department shall issue one set of special license plates to
8 each resident of this state who has been awarded the Congressional
9 Medal of Honor for use on a passenger vehicle registered to that
10 person. The department shall issue the plate without the payment of
11 licensing fees and motor vehicle excise tax.

12 (4) The department may issue for use on only one motor vehicle
13 owned by the qualified applicant special license plates denoting that
14 the recipient of the plate is a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor
15 on December 7, 1941, to persons meeting all of the following criteria:

16 (a) Is a resident of this state;

17 (b) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7,
18 1941;

19 (c) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55
20 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or
21 offshore at a distance not to exceed three miles;

22 (d) Received an honorable discharge from the United States Armed
23 Forces; and

24 (e) Is certified by a Washington state chapter of the Pearl Harbor
25 survivors association as satisfying the qualifications in (c) of this
26 subsection.

27 The department may issue such plates to the surviving spouse of any
28 deceased Pearl Harbor survivor who met the requirements of this
29 subsection. If the surviving spouse remarries, he or she shall return
30 the special plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for
31 regular plates. The surviving spouse must be a resident of this state.

32 The department shall issue these plates upon payment by the
33 applicant of all other license fees, but the department may not set or
34 charge an additional fee for these special license plates.

35 (5) Effective with registrations that are due or become due on or
36 after January 1, 2009, the department may issue for use on motor
37 vehicles owned by the qualified applicant special license plates
38 denoting that the recipient of the plate is a parent of a member of the

1 United States armed forces who died while in service to his or her
2 country or as a result of such service to persons meeting all of the
3 following criteria:

4 (a) Is a resident of this state; and

5 (b) Is a mother or father of a member of the United States armed
6 forces who died while in service to his or her country or who died as
7 a result of such service, as certified by the Washington state
8 department of veterans affairs.

9 The department shall issue these plates upon payment by the
10 applicant of all other license fees, but the department may not set or
11 charge an additional fee for these special plates.

12 (6) The department shall replace, free of charge, special license
13 plates issued under subsections (3) through (5) of this section if they
14 are lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed. Such plates shall
15 remain with the persons upon transfer or other disposition of the
16 vehicle for which they were initially issued, and may be used on
17 another vehicle registered to the recipient in accordance with the
18 provisions of RCW 46.16.316(1).

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