

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2299**

62nd Legislature  
2012 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 3, 2012  
Yeas 94 Nays 1

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**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate February 28, 2012  
Yeas 46 Nays 3

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**President of the Senate**

Approved

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2299** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

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**Chief Clerk**

FILED

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2299**

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AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

Passed Legislature - 2012 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      62nd Legislature                      2012 Regular Session**

**By** House Transportation (originally sponsored by Representatives Warnick, Clibborn, Haigh, Armstrong, Short, Nealey, Fagan, Tharinger, Hunt, Moscoso, and Jinkins)

READ FIRST TIME 01/25/12.

1            AN ACT Relating to special license plates; reenacting and amending  
2 RCW 46.18.200, 46.17.220, 46.68.420, and 46.18.060; adding new sections  
3 to chapter 46.04 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.18.200 and 2011 c 229 s 1, 2011 c 225 s 1, and 2011  
6 c 171 s 69 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7            (1) Special license plate series reviewed and approved by the  
8 department:

9            (a) May be issued in lieu of standard issue or personalized license  
10 plates for vehicles required to display one and two license plates  
11 unless otherwise specified;

12            (b) Must be issued under terms and conditions established by the  
13 department;

14            (c) Must not be issued for vehicles registered under chapter 46.87  
15 RCW; and

16            (d) Must display a symbol or artwork approved by the department.

17            (2) The department approves and shall issue the following special  
18 license plates:

1	LICENSE PLATE	DESCRIPTION, SYMBOL, OR ARTWORK
2	<u>4-H</u>	<u>Displays the "4-H" logo.</u>
3	Armed forces collection	Recognizes the contribution of veterans, active duty military personnel, reservists, and members of the national guard, and includes six separate designs, each containing a symbol representing a different branch of the armed forces to include army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, and national guard.
4	Endangered wildlife	Displays a symbol or artwork, approved by the special license plate review board and the legislature.
5	Gonzaga University alumni association	Recognizes the Gonzaga University alumni association.
6	Helping kids speak	Recognizes an organization that supports programs that provide no-cost speech pathology programs to children.
7	Keep kids safe	Recognizes efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.
8	Law enforcement memorial	Honors law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty.
9	Music matters	Displays the "Music Matters" logo.
10	Professional firefighters and paramedics	Recognizes professional firefighters and paramedics who are members of the Washington state council of firefighters.
11	Share the road	Recognizes an organization that promotes bicycle safety and awareness education.
12	Ski & ride Washington	Recognizes the Washington snowsports industry.
13	<u>State flower</u>	<u>Recognizes the Washington state flower.</u>
14	Volunteer firefighters	Recognizes volunteer firefighters.
15	Washington lighthouses	Recognizes an organization that supports selected Washington state lighthouses and provides environmental education programs.
16	Washington state parks	Recognizes Washington state parks as premier destinations of uncommon quality that preserve significant natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources.
17		
18		

1	Washington's national park fund	Builds awareness of Washington's national parks and
2		supports priority park programs and projects in
3		Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor
4		experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging
5		communities, and providing educational opportunities
6		related to Washington's national parks.
7	Washington's wildlife collection	Recognizes Washington's wildlife.
8	We love our pets	Recognizes an organization that assists local member
9		agencies of the federation of animal welfare and control
10		agencies to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery on
11		Washington state pets to reduce pet overpopulation.
12	Wild on Washington	Symbolizes wildlife viewing in Washington state.

13           (3) Applicants for initial and renewal professional firefighters  
14 and paramedics special license plates must show proof eligibility by  
15 providing a certificate of current membership from the Washington state  
16 council of firefighters.

17           (4) Applicants for initial volunteer firefighters special license  
18 plates must (a) have been a volunteer firefighter for at least ten  
19 years or be a volunteer firefighter for one or more years and (b) have  
20 documentation of service from the district of the appropriate fire  
21 service. If the volunteer firefighter leaves firefighting service  
22 before ten years of service have been completed, the volunteer  
23 firefighter shall surrender the license plates to the department on the  
24 registration renewal date. If the volunteer firefighter stays in  
25 service for at least ten years and then leaves, the license plate may  
26 be retained by the former volunteer firefighter and as long as the  
27 license plate is retained for use the person will continue to pay the  
28 future registration renewals. A qualifying volunteer firefighter may  
29 have no more than one set of license plates per vehicle, and a maximum  
30 of two sets per applicant, for their personal vehicles. If the  
31 volunteer firefighter is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or  
32 a felony, the license plates must be surrendered upon conviction.

33           NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW  
34 to read as follows:

35           "4-H license plates" means special license plates issued under RCW  
36 46.18.200 that display the "4-H" logo.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW  
2 to read as follows:

3        "State flower license plates" means special license plates issued  
4 under RCW 46.18.200 that display the Washington state flower.

5        **Sec. 4.**    RCW 46.17.220 and 2011 c 229 s 3, 2011 c 225 s 2, and 2011  
6 c 171 s 58 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7        (1) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon  
8 application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the  
9 holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special  
10 license plate fee as listed in this section.

PLATE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
(a) 4-H	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
<del>(b)</del> Amateur radio license	\$5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
<del>((b))</del> <del>(c)</del> Armed forces	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
<del>((e))</del> <del>(d)</del> Baseball stadium	\$40.00	\$30.00	Subsection (2) of this section
<del>((d))</del> <del>(e)</del> Collector vehicle	\$35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
<del>((e))</del> <del>(f)</del> Collegiate	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.430
<del>((f))</del> <del>(g)</del> Endangered wildlife	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
<del>((g))</del> <del>(h)</del> Gonzaga University alumni association	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
<del>((h))</del> <del>(i)</del> Helping kids speak	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
<del>((i))</del> <del>(j)</del> Horseless carriage	\$35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
<del>((j))</del> <del>(k)</del> Keep kids safe	\$45.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.425
<del>((k))</del> <del>(l)</del> Law enforcement memorial	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
<del>((l))</del> <del>(m)</del> Military affiliate radio system	\$5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
<del>((m))</del> <del>(n)</del> Music matters	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420
<del>((n))</del> <del>(o)</del> Professional firefighters and paramedics	\$40.00	\$30.00	RCW 46.68.420

1	<del>((p))</del> <u>(p)</u> Ride share	\$ 25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
2	<del>((q))</del> <u>(q)</u> Share the road	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
3	<del>((r))</del> <u>(r)</u> Ski & ride	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
4	Washington			
5	<del>((s))</del> <u>(s)</u> Square dancer	\$ 40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
6	<del>((t))</del> <u>(t)</u> State flower	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
7	<u>(u)</u> Volunteer firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
8	<del>((v))</del> <u>(v)</u> Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
9	lighthouses			
10	<del>((w))</del> <u>(w)</u> Washington state	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
11	parks			
12	<del>((x))</del> <u>(x)</u> Washington's	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
13	national parks			
14	<del>((y))</del> <u>(y)</u> Washington's	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
15	wildlife collection			
16	<del>((z))</del> <u>(z)</u> We love our pets	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
17	<del>((aa))</del> <u>(aa)</u> Wild on	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
18	Washington			

19 (2) After deducting administration and collection expenses for the  
20 sale of baseball stadium license plates, the remaining proceeds must be  
21 distributed to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and  
22 interest payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball  
23 stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary  
24 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW  
25 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds  
26 to the state general fund.

27 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.68.420 and 2011 c 229 s 4, 2011 c 225 s 3, and 2011  
28 c 171 s 87 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

29 (1) The department shall:

30 (a) Collect special license plate fees established under RCW  
31 46.17.220;

32 (b) Deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars for initial issue  
33 and two dollars for renewal issue for administration and collection  
34 expenses incurred by it; and

35 (c) Remit the remaining proceeds to the custody of the state  
36 treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report.

1 (2) The state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor  
2 vehicle account until the department determines that the state has been  
3 reimbursed for the cost of implementing the special license plate.  
4 Upon determination by the department that the state has been  
5 reimbursed, the state treasurer shall credit the remaining special  
6 license plate fee amounts for each special license plate to the  
7 following appropriate account as created in this section in the custody  
8 of the state treasurer:

9	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
10	<u>4-H programs</u>	<u>Support Washington 4-H programs</u>
11	Gonzaga University alumni association	Scholarship funds to needy and qualified students
12		attending or planning to attend Gonzaga University
13	Helping kids speak	Provide free diagnostic and therapeutic services to families
14		of children who suffer from a delay in language or speech
15		development
16	Law enforcement memorial	Provide support and assistance to survivors and families of
17		law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line
18		of duty and to organize, finance, fund, construct, utilize,
19		and maintain a memorial on the state capitol grounds to
20		honor those fallen officers
21	Lighthouse environmental programs	Support selected Washington state lighthouses that are
22		accessible to the public and staffed by volunteers; provide
23		environmental education programs; provide grants for
24		other Washington lighthouses to assist in funding
25		infrastructure preservation and restoration; encourage and
26		support interpretive programs by lighthouse docents
27	Music matters awareness	Promote music education in schools throughout
28		Washington
29	Share the road	Promote bicycle safety and awareness education in
30		communities throughout Washington
31	Ski & ride Washington	Promote winter snowsports, such as skiing and
32		snowboarding, and related programs, such as ski and ride
33		safety programs, underprivileged youth ski and ride
34		programs, and active, healthy lifestyle programs

1	<u>State flower</u>	<u>Support Meerkerk Rhododendron Gardens and provide for</u>
2		<u>grants to other qualified nonprofit organizations' efforts to</u>
3		<u>preserve rhododendrons</u>
4	Volunteer firefighters	Receive and disseminate funds for purposes on behalf of
5		volunteer firefighters, their families, and others deemed in
6		need
7	Washington state council of firefighters benevolent fund	Receive and disseminate funds for charitable purposes on
8		behalf of members of the Washington state council of
9		firefighters, their families, and others deemed in need
10	Washington's national park fund	Build awareness of Washington's national parks and
11		support priority park programs and projects in
12		Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor
13		experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging
14		communities, and providing educational opportunities
15		related to Washington's national parks
16	We love our pets	Support and enable the Washington federation of animal
17		welfare and control agencies to promote and perform
18		spay/neuter surgery of Washington state pets in order to
19		reduce pet population

20 (3) Only the director or the director's designee may authorize  
21 expenditures from the accounts described in subsection (2) of this  
22 section. The accounts are subject to allotment procedures under  
23 chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for  
24 expenditures.

25 (4) Funds in the special license plate accounts described in  
26 subsection (2) of this section must be disbursed subject to the  
27 conditions described in subsection (2) of this section and under  
28 contract between the department and qualified nonprofit organizations  
29 that provide the services described in subsection (2) of this section.

30 (5) For the purposes of this section, a "qualified nonprofit  
31 organization" means a not-for-profit corporation operating in  
32 Washington that has received a determination of tax exempt status under  
33 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3). The qualified nonprofit organization must  
34 meet all the requirements under RCW 46.18.100(1).

35 **Sec. 6.** RCW 46.18.060 and 2011 c 367 s 703, 2011 c 229 s 5, 2011

1 c 225 s 4, and 2011 c 171 s 66 are each reenacted and amended to read  
2 as follows:

3 (1) The department must review and either approve or reject special  
4 license plate applications submitted by sponsoring organizations.

5 (2) Duties of the department include, but are not limited to, the  
6 following:

7 (a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by  
8 sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and  
9 present those annual financial reports to the joint transportation  
10 committee;

11 (b) Report annually to the joint transportation committee on the  
12 special license plate applications that were considered by the  
13 department;

14 (c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to sponsoring  
15 organizations, the executive committee of the joint transportation  
16 committee, and the legislative sponsors identified in each application.  
17 The letters must be issued within seven days of making a determination  
18 on the status of an application; and

19 (d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special  
20 license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The department may  
21 submit a recommendation to discontinue a special plate series to the  
22 executive committee of the joint transportation committee.

23 (3) Except as provided in RCW 46.18.245, in order to assess the  
24 effects and impact of the proliferation of special license plates, the  
25 legislature declares a temporary moratorium on the issuance of any  
26 additional plates until July 1, 2013. During this period of time, the  
27 department is prohibited from accepting, reviewing, processing, or  
28 approving any applications. Additionally, a special license plate may  
29 not be enacted by the legislature during the moratorium, unless the  
30 proposed license plate has been approved by the former special license  
31 plate review board before February 15, 2005.

32 (4) ~~((The volunteer firefighters license plates created under RCW  
33 46.18.200 are exempt from the requirements of subsection (3) of this  
34 section.~~

35 ~~(5) The Music Matters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200  
36 are exempt from the requirements of subsection (3) of this section))~~  
37 The limitations under subsection (3) of this section do not apply to  
38 the following special license plates:

- 1        (a) 4-H license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;  
2        (b) Music Matters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;  
3        (c) State flower license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;  
4        (d) Volunteer firefighter license plates created under RCW  
5        46.18.200.

6        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 7.**    This act takes effect January 1, 2013.

--- END ---