Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Public Safety Committee

HB 1225

Brief Description: Regarding cost savings and efficiencies in mailing notices of revocation to habitual traffic offenders.

Sponsors: Representatives Hunt, Reykdal, Morrell and Ryu.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Authorizes the Department of Licensing to utilize first-class mail, rather than certified mail, to notify a habitual traffic offender of his or her license revocation.

Hearing Date: 1/31/13

Staff: Yvonne Walker (786-7841).

Background:

A habitual traffic offender is a person who, within a five year period, has accumulated convictions or findings of committing:

- three or more traffic infractions that include Vehicular Homicide, Vehicular Assault, Driving or Operating a Motor Vehicle while under the Influence of Intoxicants or Drugs, Driving a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended or Revoked permit or driver's license, Reckless Driving, Being in Physical Control of a Motor Vehicle while under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or Drugs, Attempting to Elude a police vehicle; or
- 20 or more moving violations.

A person meeting the definition of a habitual offender is subject to the revocation of his or her driver's license. The Department of Licensing (DOL) is required to notify a habitual offender of such license revocation by certified mail.

It costs approximately \$3.56 to send a piece of certified mail and 46 cents to send mail using first-class postage via the United State Postal Service.

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Summary of Bill:

The DOL is authorized to utilize first-class mail, rather than certified mail, to notify a habitual traffic offender of his or her license revocation.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

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