FINAL BILL REPORT SSB 5182

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Addressing the disclosure of vehicle owner information.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Carrell, Harper, King, Chase, Smith, Eide, Hobbs and Schlicher).

Senate Committee on Transportation House Committee on Judiciary House Committee on Transportation

Background: Business entities may request the name and address of individual vehicle owners for use in the course of business from the Department of Licensing (DOL). The business entity must submit the request in writing and provide the full legal name and address of the requesting party specifying the purpose for which the information will be used. The requesting party must enter into a disclosure agreement with DOL and promise that the information will be used only for the purposes stated in the request for information. Where both a mailing address and a residence address are recorded on the vehicle record and the addresses differ, only the mailing address will be disclosed to a business entity.

If DOL provides the name or address of a vehicle owner to an attorney or private investigator requesting such information, DOL must notify the vehicle owner that the information has been disclosed. The notice must include the name and address of the attorney or private investigator.

Summary: The notice that DOL provides to a vehicle owner when the owner's information has been disclosed to an attorney or private investigator must only contain the following:

- a statement indicating that DOL has disclosed the vehicle owner's name and address pursuant to a request made under RCW 46.12.635;
- the date that DOL disclosed the information; and
- a statement informing the vehicle owner that the owner may contact DOL to find out the occupation of the requesting party if the vehicle owner contacts DOL within five days.

In response to an inquiry from the vehicle owner, DOL is prohibited from disclosing any information about the requesting party other than whether it was an attorney or private investigator.

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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.

A fee of \$2 must be collected per record returned pursuant to a request by any business entity and deposited into the Highway Safety Account.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate 46 1 House 96 1

Effective: January 1, 2014.