
HOUSE BILL 1803

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Representative Orcutt

Read first time 02/11/13. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to proof of financial responsibility or motor
2 vehicle liability insurance; amending RCW 46.16A.130 and 46.30.040;
3 reenacting and amending RCW 46.16A.110; adding new sections to chapter
4 46.29 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16A.130 and 2010 c 161 s 429 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) The department shall notify motor vehicle owners of the
9 liability insurance requirements described in RCW 46.30.020 through
10 46.30.040 at the time of issuance of an original motor vehicle
11 registration and when the department sends a motor vehicle registration
12 renewal notice.

13 (2) When the department sends a vehicle registration renewal notice
14 to a registered owner who has previously failed to respond to a random
15 sampling program request under section 3 of this act, the department
16 must also provide notice of the requirement for proof of meeting the
17 financial responsibility requirements and payment of the fifty dollar
18 penalty imposed under section 3 of this act in order to renew the
19 vehicle registration.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.16A.110 and 2010 c 161 s 428 and 2010 c 8 s 9012
2 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3 (1) A registered owner or the registered owner's authorized
4 representative must apply for a renewal vehicle registration to the
5 department, county auditor or other agent, or subagent appointed by the
6 director on a form approved by the director. The application for a
7 renewal vehicle registration must be accompanied by a draft, money
8 order, certified bank check, or cash for all fees and taxes required by
9 law for the application for a renewal vehicle registration.

10 (2) An application and the fees and taxes for a renewal vehicle
11 registration must be handled in the same manner as an original vehicle
12 registration application. The registration does not need to show the
13 name of the lien holder when the application for renewal vehicle
14 registration becomes the renewal registration upon validation.

15 (3) A person expecting to be out of state during the normal renewal
16 period of a vehicle registration may renew a vehicle registration and
17 have license plates or tabs preissued by applying for a renewal as
18 described in subsection (1) of this section. A vehicle registration
19 may be renewed for the subsequent registration year up to eighteen
20 months before the current expiration date and must be displayed from
21 the date of issue or from the day of the expiration of the current
22 registration year, whichever date is later.

23 (4) Every applicant for a renewal vehicle registration due on or
24 after January 1, 2014, who has previously failed to respond to a random
25 sampling program request under section 3 of this act, must provide
26 current proof of financial responsibility to operate a vehicle as
27 required in RCW 46.30.020 and pay the fifty dollar penalty imposed
28 under section 3 of this act. The department may adopt rules regarding
29 valid proof of financial responsibility for persons renewing a vehicle
30 registration and establish conditions under which the penalty imposed
31 under section 3 of this act will not be assessed when a failure to
32 respond to a random sampling request is beyond the control of the
33 applicant. Conditions for not assessing the penalty may include, but
34 are not limited to, delays caused by extended hospitalization or
35 illness of the applicant.

36 (5) An application for a renewal vehicle registration is not
37 required for those vehicles owned, rented, or leased by:

1 (a) The state of Washington, or by any county, city, town, school
2 district, or other political subdivision of the state of Washington; or

3 (b) A governing body of an Indian tribe located within this state
4 and recognized as a governmental entity by the United States department
5 of the interior.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 46.29 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) The department shall establish a random sampling program to
9 determine if registered vehicle owners meet the financial
10 responsibility requirements to operate a vehicle as required in RCW
11 46.30.020.

12 (2) The department shall select no more than three percent of
13 registered vehicles per year in monthly increments and send the
14 registered owner of each vehicle selected a form requesting that the
15 owner provide proof of financial responsibility to operate a vehicle as
16 required in RCW 46.30.020 for a randomly selected date during the last
17 registration period.

18 (3) If the registered owner fails to provide proof of financial
19 responsibility to operate a vehicle as required in RCW 46.30.020, as
20 requested by the department, within forty-five days of the date shown
21 on the request, the registered owner must be assessed a penalty of
22 fifty dollars to be collected before the registered owner may renew the
23 vehicle registration.

24 (4) The department shall administer and collect the fifty dollar
25 penalty. The department shall deduct an amount equal to the
26 administration and collection expenses. The department shall deposit
27 any remaining proceeds under this subsection to the financial
28 responsibility education account created in section 4 of this act for
29 use in public information campaigns to educate the public regarding the
30 financial responsibility requirements under this chapter and chapter
31 46.30 RCW.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 46.29 RCW
33 to read as follows:

34 The financial responsibility education account is created in the
35 custody of the state treasurer. After the deduction of administration
36 and collection expenses incurred by the department, all receipts from

1 the fifty dollar penalty imposed under section 3 of this act must be
2 deposited into the account. Expenditures from the account may be used
3 only for public information campaigns to educate the public regarding
4 the financial responsibility requirements under this chapter and
5 chapter 46.30 RCW. Only the director of the department of licensing or
6 the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the account.
7 The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,
8 but an appropriation is not required for expenditures.

9 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.30.040 and 1991 sp.s. c 25 s 2 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 Any person who knowingly provides false evidence of financial
12 responsibility to a law enforcement officer (~~(or)~~) to a court, or to
13 the department of licensing on an application for renewal of a vehicle
14 registration, including an expired or canceled insurance policy, bond,
15 or certificate of deposit is guilty of a misdemeanor.

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