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HOUSE BILL 1944

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Representative Haler

Read first time 02/20/13. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to vehicle license plate and registration fraud;  
2 reenacting and amending RCW 46.63.020; adding a new section to chapter  
3 46.37 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.37 RCW  
6 to read as follows:

7 It is unlawful for a person to display a license plate on a vehicle  
8 that does not match or correspond with the registration of the vehicle  
9 unless the vehicle is inventory for a properly licensed vehicle dealer.  
10 A person who switches or flips license plates on a vehicle or falsifies  
11 a vehicle registration in violation of this section, in addition to any  
12 traffic infraction, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor punishable by  
13 confinement of up to three hundred sixty-four days in the county jail  
14 and a fine of five thousand dollars, which may not be suspended,  
15 deferred, or reduced. A vehicle that is found with an installed  
16 license plate flipping device may be impounded by a law enforcement  
17 officer as evidence.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.63.020 and 2010 c 252 s 3, 2010 c 161 s 1125, and  
2 2010 c 8 s 9077 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3       Failure to perform any act required or the performance of any act  
4 prohibited by this title or an equivalent administrative regulation or  
5 local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution relating to traffic  
6 including parking, standing, stopping, and pedestrian offenses, is  
7 designated as a traffic infraction and may not be classified as a  
8 criminal offense, except for an offense contained in the following  
9 provisions of this title or a violation of an equivalent administrative  
10 regulation or local law, ordinance, regulation, or resolution:

11       (1) RCW 46.09.470(2) relating to the operation of a nonhighway  
12 vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or a  
13 controlled substance;

14       (2) RCW 46.09.480 relating to operation of nonhighway vehicles;

15       (3) RCW 46.10.490(2) relating to the operation of a snowmobile  
16 while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or narcotics or habit-  
17 forming drugs or in a manner endangering the person of another;

18       (4) RCW 46.10.495 relating to the operation of snowmobiles;

19       (5) Chapter 46.12 RCW relating to certificates of title,  
20 registration certificates, and markings indicating that a vehicle has  
21 been destroyed or declared a total loss;

22       (6) RCW 46.16A.030 and 46.16A.050(3) relating to the nonpayment of  
23 taxes and fees by failure to register a vehicle and falsifying  
24 residency when registering a motor vehicle;

25       (7) RCW 46.16A.520 relating to permitting unauthorized persons to  
26 drive;

27       (8) RCW 46.16A.320 relating to vehicle trip permits;

28       (9) RCW 46.19.050 relating to knowingly providing false information  
29 in conjunction with an application for a special placard or license  
30 plate for disabled persons' parking;

31       (10) RCW 46.20.005 relating to driving without a valid driver's  
32 license;

33       (11) RCW 46.20.091 relating to false statements regarding a  
34 driver's license or instruction permit;

35       (12) RCW 46.20.0921 relating to the unlawful possession and use of  
36 a driver's license;

37       (13) RCW 46.20.342 relating to driving with a suspended or revoked  
38 license or status;

1 (14) RCW 46.20.345 relating to the operation of a motor vehicle  
2 with a suspended or revoked license;

3 (15) RCW 46.20.410 relating to the violation of restrictions of an  
4 occupational driver's license, temporary restricted driver's license,  
5 or ignition interlock driver's license;

6 (16) RCW 46.20.740 relating to operation of a motor vehicle without  
7 an ignition interlock device in violation of a license notation that  
8 the device is required;

9 (17) RCW 46.20.750 relating to circumventing an ignition interlock  
10 device;

11 (18) RCW 46.25.170 relating to commercial driver's licenses;

12 (19) Chapter 46.29 RCW relating to financial responsibility;

13 (20) RCW 46.30.040 relating to providing false evidence of  
14 financial responsibility;

15 (21) RCW 46.35.030 relating to recording device information;

16 (22) RCW 46.37.435 relating to wrongful installation of  
17 sunscreening material;

18 (23) RCW 46.37.650 relating to the sale, resale, distribution, or  
19 installation of a previously deployed air bag;

20 (24) RCW 46.37.671 through 46.37.675 relating to signal preemption  
21 devices;

22 (25) Section 1 of this act relating to switching or flipping  
23 license plates or falsifying a vehicle registration;

24 (26) RCW 46.44.180 relating to operation of mobile home pilot  
25 vehicles;

26 ~~((+26+))~~ (27) RCW 46.48.175 relating to the transportation of  
27 dangerous articles;

28 ~~((+27+))~~ (28) RCW 46.52.010 relating to duty on striking an  
29 unattended car or other property;

30 ~~((+28+))~~ (29) RCW 46.52.020 relating to duty in case of injury to  
31 or death of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;

32 ~~((+29+))~~ (30) RCW 46.52.090 relating to reports by repairers,  
33 storage persons, and appraisers;

34 ~~((+30+))~~ (31) RCW 46.52.130 relating to confidentiality of the  
35 driving record to be furnished to an insurance company, an employer,  
36 and an alcohol/drug assessment or treatment agency;

37 ~~((+31+))~~ (32) RCW 46.55.020 relating to engaging in the activities  
38 of a registered tow truck operator without a registration certificate;

1           ~~((32))~~ (33) RCW 46.55.035 relating to prohibited practices by tow  
2 truck operators;  
3           ~~((33))~~ (34) RCW 46.55.300 relating to vehicle immobilization;  
4           ~~((34))~~ (35) RCW 46.61.015 relating to obedience to police  
5 officers, flaggers, or firefighters;  
6           ~~((35))~~ (36) RCW 46.61.020 relating to refusal to give information  
7 to or cooperate with an officer;  
8           ~~((36))~~ (37) RCW 46.61.022 relating to failure to stop and give  
9 identification to an officer;  
10           ~~((37))~~ (38) RCW 46.61.024 relating to attempting to elude  
11 pursuing police vehicles;  
12           ~~((38))~~ (39) RCW 46.61.212(4) relating to reckless endangerment of  
13 emergency zone workers;  
14           ~~((39))~~ (40) RCW 46.61.500 relating to reckless driving;  
15           ~~((40))~~ (41) RCW 46.61.502 and 46.61.504 relating to persons under  
16 the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;  
17           ~~((41))~~ (42) RCW 46.61.503 relating to a person under age twenty-  
18 one driving a motor vehicle after consuming alcohol;  
19           ~~((42))~~ (43) RCW 46.61.520 relating to vehicular homicide by motor  
20 vehicle;  
21           ~~((43))~~ (44) RCW 46.61.522 relating to vehicular assault;  
22           ~~((44))~~ (45) RCW 46.61.5249 relating to first degree negligent  
23 driving;  
24           ~~((45))~~ (46) RCW 46.61.527(4) relating to reckless endangerment of  
25 roadway workers;  
26           ~~((46))~~ (47) RCW 46.61.530 relating to racing of vehicles on  
27 highways;  
28           ~~((47))~~ (48) RCW 46.61.655(7) (a) and (b) relating to failure to  
29 secure a load;  
30           ~~((48))~~ (49) RCW 46.61.685 relating to leaving children in an  
31 unattended vehicle with the motor running;  
32           ~~((49))~~ (50) RCW 46.61.740 relating to theft of motor vehicle  
33 fuel;  
34           ~~((50))~~ (51) RCW 46.64.010 relating to unlawful cancellation of or  
35 attempt to cancel a traffic citation;  
36           ~~((51))~~ (52) RCW 46.64.048 relating to attempting, aiding,  
37 abetting, coercing, and committing crimes;

1        ~~((+52+))~~ (53) Chapter 46.65 RCW relating to habitual traffic  
2 offenders;  
3        ~~((+53+))~~ (54) RCW 46.68.010 relating to false statements made to  
4 obtain a refund;  
5        ~~((+54+))~~ (55) Chapter 46.70 RCW relating to unfair motor vehicle  
6 business practices, except where that chapter provides for the  
7 assessment of monetary penalties of a civil nature;  
8        ~~((+55+))~~ (56) Chapter 46.72 RCW relating to the transportation of  
9 passengers in for hire vehicles;  
10        ~~((+56+))~~ (57) RCW 46.72A.060 relating to limousine carrier  
11 insurance;  
12        ~~((+57+))~~ (58) RCW 46.72A.070 relating to operation of a limousine  
13 without a vehicle certificate;  
14        ~~((+58+))~~ (59) RCW 46.72A.080 relating to false advertising by a  
15 limousine carrier;  
16        ~~((+59+))~~ (60) Chapter 46.80 RCW relating to motor vehicle wreckers;  
17        ~~((+60+))~~ (61) Chapter 46.82 RCW relating to driver's training  
18 schools;  
19        ~~((+61+))~~ (62) RCW 46.87.260 relating to alteration or forgery of a  
20 cab card, letter of authority, or other temporary authority issued  
21 under chapter 46.87 RCW;  
22        ~~((+62+))~~ (63) RCW 46.87.290 relating to operation of an  
23 unregistered or unlicensed vehicle under chapter 46.87 RCW.

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