
SENATE BILL 5437

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senators Padden, Hargrove, Roach, Kline, Sheldon, Pearson, and Chase

Read first time 01/30/13. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to boating safety; amending RCW 79A.60.040,
2 10.31.100, and 79A.60.150; reenacting and amending RCW 7.80.120; adding
3 new sections to chapter 79A.60 RCW; and prescribing penalties.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 79A.60.040 and 1998 c 213 s 7 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) It (~~shall be~~) is unlawful for any person to operate a vessel
8 in a reckless manner.

9 (2) It (~~shall be a violation~~) is unlawful for a person to operate
10 a vessel while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, marijuana,
11 or any drug. A person is considered to be under the influence of
12 intoxicating liquor, marijuana, or any drug if, within two hours of
13 operating a vessel:

14 (a) The person has an alcohol concentration of 0.08 (~~grams~~) or
15 (~~more of alcohol per two hundred ten liters of breath,~~) higher as
16 shown by analysis of the person's breath or blood made under RCW
17 46.61.506; or

18 (b) The person has (~~0.08 percent or more by weight of alcohol in~~

1 ~~the person's blood, as shown by analysis of the person's blood made~~
2 ~~under RCW 46.61.506)) a THC concentration of 5.00 or higher as shown by~~
3 ~~analysis of the person's blood made under RCW 46.61.506; or~~

4 (c) The person is under the influence of or affected by
5 intoxicating liquor, marijuana, or any drug; or

6 (d) The person is under the combined influence of or affected by
7 intoxicating liquor, marijuana, and any drug.

8 (3) The fact that any person charged with a violation of this
9 section is or has been entitled to use such drug under the laws of this
10 state shall not constitute a defense against any charge of violating
11 this section. ~~((A person cited under this subsection may upon request~~
12 ~~be given a breath test for breath alcohol or may request to have a~~
13 ~~blood sample taken for blood alcohol analysis. An arresting officer~~
14 ~~shall administer field sobriety tests when circumstances permit.~~

15 ~~(3))~~ (4) Any person who operates a vessel within this state is
16 deemed to have given consent, subject to the provisions of RCW
17 46.61.506, to a test or tests of the person's breath or blood for the
18 purpose of determining the alcohol concentration, THC concentration, or
19 presence of any drug in the person's breath or blood if arrested for
20 any offense where, at the time of the arrest, the arresting officer has
21 reasonable grounds to believe the person was operating a vessel while
22 under the influence of intoxicating liquor, marijuana, or any drug.
23 Neither consent nor this section precludes a police officer from
24 obtaining a search warrant for a person's breath or blood. An
25 arresting officer may administer field sobriety tests when
26 circumstances permit.

27 (5) The test or tests of breath must be administered pursuant to
28 RCW 46.20.308. Where the officer has reasonable grounds to believe
29 that the person is under the influence of a drug, or where the person
30 is incapable due to physical injury, physical incapacity, or other
31 physical limitation, of providing a breath sample, or where the person
32 is being treated in a hospital, clinic, doctor's office, emergency
33 medical vehicle, ambulance, or other similar facility, a blood test
34 must be administered by a qualified person as provided in RCW
35 46.61.506(5). The officer shall warn the person that if the person
36 refuses to take the test, the person will be issued a class 1 civil
37 infraction under RCW 7.80.120.

1 (6) A violation of subsection (1) of this section is a
2 misdemeanor~~((, punishable as provided under RCW 9.92.030))~~. A
3 violation of subsection (2) of this section is a gross misdemeanor. In
4 addition to the statutory penalties imposed, the court may order the
5 defendant to pay restitution for any damages or injuries resulting from
6 the offense.

7 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 79A.60 RCW
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) The refusal of a person to submit to a test of the alcohol
10 concentration, THC concentration, or presence of any drug in the
11 person's blood or breath is admissible into evidence at a subsequent
12 criminal trial.

13 (2) A person's refusal to submit to a test or tests pursuant to RCW
14 79A.60.040 constitutes a class 1 civil infraction under RCW 7.80.120.

15 **Sec. 3.** RCW 7.80.120 and 2003 c 365 s 3 and 2003 c 337 s 4 are
16 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

17 (1) A person found to have committed a civil infraction shall be
18 assessed a monetary penalty.

19 (a) The maximum penalty and the default amount for a class 1 civil
20 infraction shall be two hundred fifty dollars, not including statutory
21 assessments, except for an infraction of state law involving: (i)
22 Potentially dangerous litter as specified in RCW 70.93.060(4) (~~and an~~
23 infraction of state law involving)); (ii) violent video or computer
24 games under RCW 9.91.180; or (iii) a person's refusal to submit to a
25 test or tests pursuant to RCW 79A.60.040 and section 2 of this act, in
26 which case the maximum penalty and default amount is five hundred
27 dollars;

28 (b) The maximum penalty and the default amount for a class 2 civil
29 infraction shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars, not including
30 statutory assessments;

31 (c) The maximum penalty and the default amount for a class 3 civil
32 infraction shall be fifty dollars, not including statutory assessments;
33 and

34 (d) The maximum penalty and the default amount for a class 4 civil
35 infraction shall be twenty-five dollars, not including statutory
36 assessments.

1 (2) The supreme court shall prescribe by rule the conditions under
2 which local courts may exercise discretion in assessing fines for civil
3 infractions.

4 (3) Whenever a monetary penalty is imposed by a court under this
5 chapter it is immediately payable. If the person is unable to pay at
6 that time the court may grant an extension of the period in which the
7 penalty may be paid. If the penalty is not paid on or before the time
8 established for payment, the court may proceed to collect the penalty
9 in the same manner as other civil judgments and may notify the
10 prosecuting authority of the failure to pay.

11 (4) The court may also order a person found to have committed a
12 civil infraction to make restitution.

13 **Sec. 4.** RCW 10.31.100 and 2010 c 274 s 201 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 A police officer having probable cause to believe that a person has
16 committed or is committing a felony shall have the authority to arrest
17 the person without a warrant. A police officer may arrest a person
18 without a warrant for committing a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor
19 only when the offense is committed in the presence of the officer,
20 except as provided in subsections (1) through (~~(+10+)~~) (11) of this
21 section.

22 (1) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a
23 person has committed or is committing a misdemeanor or gross
24 misdemeanor, involving physical harm or threats of harm to any person
25 or property or the unlawful taking of property or involving the use or
26 possession of cannabis, or involving the acquisition, possession, or
27 consumption of alcohol by a person under the age of twenty-one years
28 under RCW 66.44.270, or involving criminal trespass under RCW 9A.52.070
29 or 9A.52.080, shall have the authority to arrest the person.

30 (2) A police officer shall arrest and take into custody, pending
31 release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, a person
32 without a warrant when the officer has probable cause to believe that:

33 (a) An order has been issued of which the person has knowledge
34 under RCW 26.44.063, or chapter 7.90, 10.99, 26.09, 26.10, 26.26,
35 26.50, or 74.34 RCW restraining the person and the person has violated
36 the terms of the order restraining the person from acts or threats of
37 violence, or restraining the person from going onto the grounds of or

1 entering a residence, workplace, school, or day care, or prohibiting
2 the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly remaining within,
3 a specified distance of a location or, in the case of an order issued
4 under RCW 26.44.063, imposing any other restrictions or conditions upon
5 the person; or

6 (b) A foreign protection order, as defined in RCW 26.52.010, has
7 been issued of which the person under restraint has knowledge and the
8 person under restraint has violated a provision of the foreign
9 protection order prohibiting the person under restraint from contacting
10 or communicating with another person, or excluding the person under
11 restraint from a residence, workplace, school, or day care, or
12 prohibiting the person from knowingly coming within, or knowingly
13 remaining within, a specified distance of a location, or a violation of
14 any provision for which the foreign protection order specifically
15 indicates that a violation will be a crime; or

16 (c) The person is sixteen years or older and within the preceding
17 four hours has assaulted a family or household member as defined in RCW
18 10.99.020 and the officer believes: (i) A felonious assault has
19 occurred; (ii) an assault has occurred which has resulted in bodily
20 injury to the victim, whether the injury is observable by the
21 responding officer or not; or (iii) that any physical action has
22 occurred which was intended to cause another person reasonably to fear
23 imminent serious bodily injury or death. Bodily injury means physical
24 pain, illness, or an impairment of physical condition. When the
25 officer has probable cause to believe that family or household members
26 have assaulted each other, the officer is not required to arrest both
27 persons. The officer shall arrest the person whom the officer believes
28 to be the primary physical aggressor. In making this determination,
29 the officer shall make every reasonable effort to consider: (i) The
30 intent to protect victims of domestic violence under RCW 10.99.010;
31 (ii) the comparative extent of injuries inflicted or serious threats
32 creating fear of physical injury; and (iii) the history of domestic
33 violence of each person involved, including whether the conduct was
34 part of an ongoing pattern of abuse.

35 (3) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a
36 person has committed or is committing a violation of any of the
37 following traffic laws shall have the authority to arrest the person:

1 (a) RCW 46.52.010, relating to duty on striking an unattended car
2 or other property;

3 (b) RCW 46.52.020, relating to duty in case of injury to or death
4 of a person or damage to an attended vehicle;

5 (c) RCW 46.61.500 or 46.61.530, relating to reckless driving or
6 racing of vehicles;

7 (d) RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, relating to persons under the
8 influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs;

9 (e) RCW 46.20.342, relating to driving a motor vehicle while
10 operator's license is suspended or revoked;

11 (f) RCW 46.61.5249, relating to operating a motor vehicle in a
12 negligent manner.

13 (4) A law enforcement officer investigating at the scene of a motor
14 vehicle accident may arrest the driver of a motor vehicle involved in
15 the accident if the officer has probable cause to believe that the
16 driver has committed in connection with the accident a violation of any
17 traffic law or regulation.

18 (5) A law enforcement officer investigating at the scene of a
19 vessel accident may arrest the operator of a vessel involved in the
20 accident if the officer has probable cause to believe that the operator
21 has committed, in connection with the accident, a violation of any
22 boating safety law or rule.

23 (6) Any police officer having probable cause to believe that a
24 person has committed or is committing a violation of RCW 79A.60.040
25 shall have the authority to arrest the person.

26 ((+6)) (7) An officer may act upon the request of a law
27 enforcement officer in whose presence a traffic infraction was
28 committed, to stop, detain, arrest, or issue a notice of traffic
29 infraction to the driver who is believed to have committed the
30 infraction. The request by the witnessing officer shall give an
31 officer the authority to take appropriate action under the laws of the
32 state of Washington.

33 ((+7)) (8) Any police officer having probable cause to believe
34 that a person has committed or is committing any act of indecent
35 exposure, as defined in RCW 9A.88.010, may arrest the person.

36 ((+8)) (9) A police officer may arrest and take into custody,
37 pending release on bail, personal recognizance, or court order, a

1 person without a warrant when the officer has probable cause to believe
2 that an order has been issued of which the person has knowledge under
3 chapter 10.14 RCW and the person has violated the terms of that order.

4 ~~((+9))~~ (10) Any police officer having probable cause to believe
5 that a person has, within twenty-four hours of the alleged violation,
6 committed a violation of RCW 9A.50.020 may arrest such person.

7 ~~((+10))~~ (11) A police officer having probable cause to believe
8 that a person illegally possesses or illegally has possessed a firearm
9 or other dangerous weapon on private or public elementary or secondary
10 school premises shall have the authority to arrest the person.

11 For purposes of this subsection, the term "firearm" has the meaning
12 defined in RCW 9.41.010 and the term "dangerous weapon" has the meaning
13 defined in RCW 9.41.250 and 9.41.280(1) (c) through (e).

14 ~~((+11))~~ (12) Except as specifically provided in subsections (2),
15 (3), (4), and ~~((+6))~~ (7) of this section, nothing in this section
16 extends or otherwise affects the powers of arrest prescribed in Title
17 46 RCW.

18 ~~((+12))~~ (13) No police officer may be held criminally or civilly
19 liable for making an arrest pursuant to subsection (2) or ~~((+8))~~ (9)
20 of this section if the police officer acts in good faith and without
21 malice.

22 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. A new section is added to chapter 79A.60 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 (1) No person who has vessels for hire, or the agent or employee
25 thereof, shall rent, lease, charter, or otherwise permit the use of a
26 vessel, unless the person:

27 (a) Displays the vessel registration numbers and a valid decal on
28 the vessel hull as required by RCW 88.02.550(1);

29 (b) Keeps a copy of the vessel registration certificate aboard the
30 vessel, in compliance with RCW 88.02.340;

31 (c) Displays a carbon monoxide decal on the vessel as required by
32 RCW 88.02.390(2) if the vessel is motor-driven and is not a personal
33 watercraft;

34 (d) Provides a copy of the rental agreement to be kept aboard
35 during the rental, lease, charter, or use period for vessels required
36 under chapter 88.02 RCW to be registered;

1 (e) Ensures that the vessel, if motor-propelled, meets the muffler
2 or underwater exhaust system requirement in RCW 79A.60.130;

3 (f) Outfits the vessel with the quantity and type of personal
4 floatation devices required by RCW 79A.60.140 and 79A.60.160 for the
5 number and ages of the people who will use the vessel;

6 (g) Explains the personal floatation device requirements to the
7 person renting, leasing, chartering, or otherwise using the vessel;

8 (h) Equips the vessel with a skier-down flag, and explains observer
9 and personal floatation requirements of RCW 79A.60.170, if the persons
10 renting, leasing, chartering, or otherwise using the vessel will be
11 waterskiing;

12 (i) If the vessel is a personal watercraft, provides a personal
13 floatation device and a lanyard attached to an engine cutoff switch for
14 the operator to wear at all times when operating the personal
15 watercraft, as required by RCW 79A.60.190;

16 (j) Reviews with the person operating the vessel, and all other
17 persons who the operator may permit to operate the vessel, all the
18 information contained in the motor vessel safety operating and
19 equipment checklist prescribed by the Washington state parks and
20 recreation commission and required under RCW 79A.60.640(6); and

21 (k) Provides all other safety equipment required by RCW 79A.60.110
22 and referenced in the motor vessel safety operating and equipment
23 checklist prescribed by the Washington state parks and recreation
24 commission and required under RCW 79A.60.640(6).

25 (2) This section does not apply to fishing guides and charter boat
26 operators who have a United States coast guard operator's license and
27 are operating on navigable waters, and people who act in the capacity
28 of a paid whitewater river outfitter or guide, or who operate a vessel
29 carrying passengers for hire on whitewater rivers in this state.

30 (3) As provided in RCW 79A.60.020, a violation of this section is
31 a civil infraction punishable under chapter 7.84 RCW, unless:

32 (a) The violation is a violation of RCW 88.02.550, which is
33 punished as a class 2 civil infraction; or

34 (b) The current violation is the person's third violation of the
35 same provision of this chapter during the past three hundred sixty-five
36 days. If it is the person's third violation, then it must be punished
37 as a misdemeanor under RCW 9.92.030.

1 **Sec. 6.** RCW 79A.60.150 and 1993 c 244 s 13 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 If (~~(an infraction is issued under this chapter because a vessel~~
4 ~~does not contain the required equipment and if the operator is not the~~
5 ~~owner of the vessel, but is operating the vessel with the express or~~
6 ~~implied permission of the owner, then either or both operator or owner~~
7 ~~may be cited for the infraction)) a vessel does not contain the safety
8 equipment required under this chapter and the rules of the commission,
9 and the operator is not the owner of the vessel but is operating the
10 vessel with the express or implied permission of the owner, then either
11 the owner or the operator, or both, may be cited for the applicable
12 infraction or charged with the applicable crime.~~

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