
HOUSE BILL 2627

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Pike, Moeller, Wylie, Fitzgibbon, and Kilduff

Read first time 01/18/16. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to authorizing local governments to use a young
2 driver safety training program created by the national safety
3 council; and adding a new chapter to Title 46 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the
6 alive at twenty-five act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature finds that young drivers
8 between sixteen and twenty-four years old are overrepresented in
9 fatalities and physical injuries resulting from motor vehicle
10 accidents. The national safety council sponsors a defensive driving
11 program, "alive at twenty-five," that has reduced high-risk behaviors
12 by young drivers in jurisdictions that have adopted the program. The
13 legislature intends to give local authorities the opportunity to
14 adopt this program for use by high-risk young drivers who have
15 committed traffic infractions or have been involved in accidents in
16 an effort to prevent future fatalities or injuries due to motor
17 vehicle collisions.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The definitions in this section apply
2 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
3 otherwise.

4 (1) "Court" means municipal court, district court, juvenile
5 court, or superior court, or any other court hearing and determining
6 traffic cases within the limits of a county in which a young driver
7 safety training program has been established.

8 (2) "Young driver safety training program" means the national
9 safety council's alive at twenty-five defensive driving course as it
10 existed on the effective date of this section, or such subsequent
11 date as may be provided by local ordinance.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** (1) The purpose of the young driver safety
13 training program is to instruct, educate, and inform those who attend
14 the training program on defensive driving techniques and other
15 strategies for staying safe on the road designed specifically for
16 young drivers.

17 (2) The young driver safety training program must meet the
18 following requirements:

19 (a) A program instructor must successfully complete a young
20 driver safety training instructor course to gain certification to
21 teach in the training program.

22 (b) Core training program materials used in training program
23 sessions must have been developed specifically for use in a young
24 driver safety training program.

25 (c) A young driver safety training program session must include
26 at least three and one-half hours of instruction time.

27 (d) A young driver safety training program session must be
28 conducted in a live, interactive format focused specifically on
29 topics related to young driver safety. Topics covered must include:
30 Alcohol and drug awareness, traffic laws, the high rate of motor
31 vehicle accidents and fatalities for drivers younger than twenty-five
32 years old, and issues commonly associated with motor vehicle
33 accidents involving drivers younger than twenty-five years old.

34 (3) A young driver safety training program may permit any person
35 between sixteen and twenty-four years old to enroll in and attend a
36 training program session voluntarily as long as space for additional
37 students is available in a scheduled training session.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** (1) A city, town, or county may establish
2 a young driver safety training program and authorize a court to
3 require attendance at such a program by drivers younger than twenty-
4 five years old. A city, town, or county young driver safety training
5 program may be established when the governing body of the city, town,
6 or county passes an ordinance authorizing the operation of a young
7 driver safety training program.

8 (2) The governing body of a city, town, or county participating
9 in the operation of a young driver safety training program may make
10 appropriations for training program operations and accept and expend
11 gifts, donations, and any other money from any source, private or
12 public, given for the purpose of the training program. The ordinance
13 may authorize the provider of the young driver safety training
14 program to charge a fee to the person attending the program.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** (1) A court in which a young driver safety
16 training program has been established may order a person who is
17 between sixteen and twenty-four years old to attend the young driver
18 safety training program for a training session as a condition on the
19 suspension of a sentence or deferral of entry of a court order or as
20 part of a sentence imposed following a conviction for the following
21 moving violations or violations of an equivalent local law,
22 ordinance, regulation, or resolution:

23 (a) Racing, as described in RCW 46.61.530;

24 (b) Speed too fast for conditions, as described in RCW 46.61.400;

25 (c) Speed in excess of maximum limit, as described in RCW
26 46.61.400;

27 (d) Failure to stop, as described in RCW 46.61.055, 46.61.065,
28 46.61.195, or 46.61.200.

29 (2) A court may not require a person to attend a young driver
30 safety training program unless the program is offered within the city
31 or town or within a reasonable distance of the person's residence.

32 (3) Every person required to attend a young driver safety
33 training program session must attend the training program session in
34 accordance with the court sentence or order. Failure to attend a
35 training program session within thirty days after the court sentence
36 or order is put in place, or failure to attend the next session with
37 space available if longer than thirty days after the sentence or
38 order is put in place, unless for good cause shown, results in
39 termination of the deferral.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) This chapter does not repeal, amend,
2 or modify any law authorizing the use of traffic school or
3 relicensing diversion programs, but is an additional and alternative
4 program for a person who has committed certain traffic infractions
5 and is between sixteen and twenty-four years old.

6 (2) A deferral granted under this chapter must be included in the
7 determination of total deferrals a person may receive as set forth in
8 RCW 46.63.070.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 7 of this act
10 constitute a new chapter in Title 46 RCW.

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