
HOUSE BILL 2733

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Ryu, Stanford, Kirby, and Santos

Read first time 01/19/16. Referred to Committee on Business & Financial Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to establishing uniform insurance standards for
2 taxicabs, for hire vehicles, and personal vehicles used to provide
3 commercial transportation services; amending RCW 46.72.040 and
4 81.72.210; and adding a new section to chapter 46.08 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 46.08
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) The legislature finds and declares that privately operated
9 transportation services are a vital part of the transportation system
10 within the state, providing prearranged and on-demand transportation
11 services for compensation to state residents, tourists, and out-of-
12 state business people throughout the state. Consequently, the setting
13 of uniform requirements for surety bonds and insurance for privately
14 operated transportation services and their motor vehicles is a matter
15 of statewide importance.

16 Therefore, the state of Washington fully occupies and preempts
17 the entire field of regulation over the provision of surety bonds and
18 public liability insurance for motor vehicles offered for hire and
19 for hire operators as regulated under chapter 46.72 RCW, taxicab
20 companies as regulated under chapter 81.72 RCW, and personal vehicles

1 used to provide commercial transportation services as regulated under
2 chapter 48.177 RCW.

3 (2) Cities, towns, counties, port districts, any other
4 municipalities, and agencies of the state of Washington may enact
5 only those laws, ordinances, and rules relating to a showing of
6 compliance with insurance requirements for: For hire operators and
7 vehicles operated for hire under chapter 46.72 RCW, taxicabs under
8 chapter 81.72 RCW, or personal vehicles used to provide commercial
9 transportation services under chapter 48.177 RCW.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.72.040 and 2010 c 8 s 9089 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 Before a permit is issued, every for hire operator shall be
13 required to deposit and thereafter keep on file with the director a
14 surety bond running to the state of Washington covering each and
15 every ((for hire)) vehicle as may be owned or leased by him or her
16 and used in the conduct of his or her business as a for hire
17 operator. Such bond shall be in the sum of one hundred thousand
18 dollars for any recovery for death or personal injury by one person,
19 and three hundred thousand dollars for all persons killed or
20 receiving personal injury by reason of one act of negligence, and
21 twenty-five thousand dollars for damage to property of any person
22 other than the assured, with a good and sufficient surety company
23 licensed to do business in this state as surety and to be approved by
24 the director, conditioned for the faithful compliance by the
25 principal of said bond with the provisions of this chapter, and to
26 pay all damages which may be sustained by any person injured by
27 reason of any careless negligence or unlawful act on the part of said
28 principal, his or her agents or employees in the conduct of said
29 business or in the operation of any motor propelled vehicle used in
30 transporting passengers for compensation on any public highway of
31 this state.

32 **Sec. 3.** RCW 81.72.210 and 1984 c 126 s 2 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 To protect the public health, safety, and welfare, cities, towns,
35 counties, and port districts of the state may license, control, and
36 regulate privately operated taxicab transportation services operating
37 within their respective jurisdictions. The power to regulate
38 includes:

- 1 (1) Regulating entry into the business of providing taxicab
2 transportation services;
- 3 (2) Requiring a license to be purchased as a condition of
4 operating a taxicab and the right to revoke, cancel, or refuse to
5 reissue a license for failure to comply with regulatory requirements;
- 6 (3) Controlling the rates charged for providing taxicab
7 transportation service and the manner in which rates are calculated
8 and collected, including the establishment of zones as the basis for
9 rates;
- 10 (4) Regulating the routes of taxicabs, including restricting
11 access to airports;
- 12 (5) Establishing safety(~~(τ)~~) and equipment(~~(τ—and—insurance)~~)
13 requirements; and
- 14 (6) Any other requirements adopted to ensure safe and reliable
15 taxicab service.

--- END ---