
SENATE BILL 6547

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2016 Regular Session

By Senators Becker, Ranker, Miloscia, O'Ban, Dammeier, Schoesler, Angel, Roach, Litzow, Parlette, McAuliffe, Rolfes, and Conway

Read first time 01/25/16. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to Washington state patrol officer recruitment
2 and compensation; amending RCW 43.43.380, 46.68.030, 82.16.0496, and
3 82.04.4496; and adding a new section to chapter 43.43 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.43
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 To ensure that it is adequately and thoroughly reaching potential
8 recruits, the Washington state patrol must develop a comprehensive
9 outreach and marketing strategic plan that expands on the success of
10 current strategies and looks for ways to tap into groups or
11 individuals that do not currently show an interest in the state
12 patrol or law enforcement as a career. The plan must include, but is
13 not limited to, expanding marketing and outreach efforts online and
14 through other media outlets and expanding recruitment relationships
15 in respective communities. The plan must also include polling
16 applicants about their application. Results from the polling must be
17 tracked to determine the success of each outreach method.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.43.380 and 1965 c 8 s 43.43.380 are each amended
19 to read as follows:

1 (1) The ((minimum)) monthly salary and benefits paid to state
2 patrol officers ((shall)) must be ((as follows: Officers, three
3 hundred dollars; staff or technical sergeants, three hundred twenty-
4 five dollars; line sergeants, three hundred fifty dollars;
5 lieutenants, three hundred seventy five dollars; captains, four
6 hundred twenty five dollars)) competitive with comparable law
7 enforcement agencies within the boundaries of the state of
8 Washington.

9 (2) A 7.5 percent salary adjustment increase must be made agency-
10 wide to existing salary levels over a three-year period. Moneys
11 deposited into the state patrol highway account from the multimodal
12 transportation account under RCW 82.16.0496(14)(b) and
13 82.04.4496(13)(b) must be used solely for state patrol salaries and
14 benefits.

15 (3) If the combination of available funds and the transfers under
16 RCW 82.16.0496(14)(b) and 82.04.4496(13)(b) are not sufficient to
17 meet the needs of the state patrol for training and hiring at least
18 ten new officers annually, the amount necessary to do so must be
19 transferred from connecting Washington account project funds
20 appropriated for fish culverts (PIN L1100066) into the state patrol
21 highway account. This transfer must not exceed more than the
22 appropriated amount for that project in that fiscal biennium.

23 **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.68.030 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 43 s 601 are each
24 amended to read as follows:

25 (1) The director shall forward all fees for vehicle registrations
26 under chapters 46.16A and 46.17 RCW, unless otherwise specified by
27 law, to the state treasurer with a proper identifying detailed
28 report. The state treasurer shall credit these moneys to the motor
29 vehicle fund created in RCW 46.68.070.

30 (2) Proceeds from vehicle license fees and renewal vehicle
31 license fees must be deposited by the state treasurer ((as follows:

32 ~~(a) \$20.35 of each initial or renewal vehicle license fee must be~~
33 ~~deposited)) in the state patrol highway account in the motor vehicle~~
34 ~~fund, hereby created. Vehicle license fees, renewal vehicle license~~
35 ~~fees, and all other funds in the state patrol highway account must be~~
36 ~~for the sole use of the Washington state patrol for highway~~
37 ~~activities of the Washington state patrol, subject to proper~~
38 ~~appropriations and reappropriations.~~

1 ~~((b) \$2.02 of each initial vehicle license fee and \$0.93 of each~~
2 ~~renewal vehicle license fee must be deposited each biennium in the~~
3 ~~Puget Sound ferry operations account.~~

4 ~~(c) Any remaining amounts of vehicle license fees and renewal~~
5 ~~vehicle license fees that are not distributed otherwise under this~~
6 ~~section must be deposited in the motor vehicle fund.)~~

7 (3) During the 2015-2017 fiscal biennium, the legislature may
8 transfer from the state patrol highway account to the connecting
9 Washington account such amounts as reflect the excess fund balance of
10 the state patrol highway account.

11 **Sec. 4.** RCW 82.16.0496 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 s 412 are each
12 amended to read as follows:

13 (1)(a) A person who is taxable under this chapter is allowed a
14 credit against the tax imposed in this chapter according to the gross
15 vehicle weight rating of the vehicle and the incremental cost of the
16 vehicle purchased above the purchase price of a comparable
17 conventionally fueled vehicle. The credit is limited, as set forth in
18 the table below, to the lesser of the incremental cost amount or the
19 maximum credit amount per vehicle purchased, and subject to a maximum
20 annual credit amount per vehicle class.

Gross Vehicle Weight	Incremental Cost Amount	Maximum Credit Amount Per Vehicle	Maximum Annual Credit Per Vehicle Class
Up to 14,000 pounds	50% of incremental cost	\$5,000	\$2,000,000
14,001 to 26,500 pounds	50% of incremental cost	\$10,000	\$2,000,000
Above 26,500 pounds	50% of incremental cost	\$20,000	\$2,000,000

26 (b) On September 1st of each year any unused credits from any
27 weight class identified in the table in (a) of this subsection must
28 be made available to applicants applying for credits under any other
29 weight class listed.

30 (c) The credit provided in this subsection (1) is not available
31 for the lease of a vehicle.

32 (2) A person who is taxable under this chapter is allowed,
33 subject to the maximum annual credit per vehicle class in subsection
34 (1)(a) of this section, a credit against the tax imposed in this
35 chapter for the lesser of twenty-five thousand dollars or thirty
36 percent of the costs of converting a commercial vehicle to be

1 principally powered by a clean alternative fuel with a United States
2 environmental protection agency certified conversion.

3 (3) The total credits under this section may not exceed two
4 hundred fifty thousand dollars or twenty-five vehicles per person per
5 calendar year.

6 (4) A person may not receive credit under this section for
7 amounts claimed as credits under chapter 82.04 RCW.

8 (5) Credits are available on a first-in-time basis. The
9 department must disallow any credits, or portion thereof, that would
10 cause the total amount of credits claimed under this section, and RCW
11 82.04.4496, during any calendar year to exceed six million dollars.
12 The department must provide notification on its web site monthly on
13 the amount of credits that have been applied for, the amount issued,
14 and the amount remaining before the statewide annual limit is
15 reached. In addition, the department must provide written notice to
16 any person who has applied to claim tax credits in excess of the
17 limitation in this subsection.

18 (6) For the purposes of the limits provided in this section, a
19 credit must be counted against such limits for the calendar year in
20 which the credit is earned.

21 (7) To claim a credit under this section a person must
22 electronically file with the department all returns, forms, and any
23 other information required by the department, in an electronic format
24 as provided or approved by the department. No refunds may be granted
25 for credits under this section.

26 (8) To claim a credit under this section, the person applying
27 must:

28 (a) Complete an application for the credit which must include:

29 (i) The name, business address, and tax identification number of
30 the applicant;

31 (ii) A quote or unexecuted copy of the purchase requisition or
32 order for the vehicle;

33 (iii) The type of alternative fuel to be used by the vehicle;

34 (iv) The incremental cost of the alternative fuel system;

35 (v) The anticipated delivery date of the vehicle;

36 (vi) The estimated annual fuel use of the vehicle in its
37 anticipated duties;

38 (vii) The gross weight of the vehicle; and

39 (viii) Any other information deemed necessary by the department
40 to support administration or reporting of the program.

1 (b) Within fifteen days of notice of credit availability from the
2 department, provide notice of intent to claim the credit including:

3 (i) A copy of the order for the vehicle, including the total cost
4 for the vehicle;

5 (ii) The anticipated delivery date of the vehicle, which must be
6 within one hundred twenty days of acceptance of the credit; and

7 (iii) Any other information deemed necessary by the department to
8 support administration or reporting of the program.

9 (c) Provide final documentation within fifteen days of receipt of
10 the vehicle, including:

11 (i) A copy of the final invoice for the vehicle;

12 (ii) A copy of the factory build sheet or equivalent
13 documentation;

14 (iii) The vehicle identification number of the vehicle;

15 (iv) The incremental cost of the alternative fuel system;

16 (v) Attestations signed by both the seller and purchaser of the
17 vehicle attesting that the incremental cost of the alternative fuel
18 system includes only the costs necessary for the vehicle to run on
19 alternative fuel and no other vehicle options, equipment, or costs;
20 and

21 (vi) Any other information deemed necessary by the department to
22 support administration or reporting of the program.

23 (9) To administer the credits, the department must, at a minimum:

24 (a) Provide notification on its web site monthly of the amount of
25 credits that have been applied for, claimed, and the amount remaining
26 before the statewide annual limit is reached;

27 (b) Within fifteen days of receipt of the application, notify
28 persons applying of the availability of tax credits in the year in
29 which the vehicles applied for are anticipated to be delivered;

30 (c) Within fifteen days of receipt of the notice of intent to
31 claim the tax credit, notify the applicant of the approval, denial,
32 or missing information in their notice; and

33 (d) Within fifteen days of receipt of final documentation, review
34 the documentation and notify the person applying of the acceptance of
35 their final documentation.

36 (10) If a person fails to supply the information as required in
37 subsection (8) of this section, the department must deny the
38 application.

39 (11)(a) Taxpayers are only eligible for a credit under this
40 section based on:

1 (i) Sales, but not leases, of new commercial vehicles and
2 qualifying used commercial vehicles with propulsion units that are
3 principally powered by a clean alternative fuel; or

4 (ii) Costs to modify a commercial vehicle, including sales of
5 tangible personal property incorporated into the vehicle and labor or
6 service expenses incurred in modifying the vehicle, to be principally
7 powered by a clean alternative fuel.

8 (b) A credit is earned when qualifying purchases are made.

9 (12) The definitions in RCW 82.04.4496 apply to this section.

10 (13) A credit earned during one calendar year may be carried over
11 to be credited against taxes incurred in the subsequent calendar
12 year, but may not be carried over a second year.

13 (14)(a) Beginning November 25, 2015, and on the 25th of February,
14 May, August, and November of each year thereafter, the department
15 must notify the state treasurer of the amount of credits taken under
16 this section as reported on returns filed with the department during
17 the preceding calendar quarter ending on the last day of December,
18 March, June, and September, respectively.

19 (b) On the last day of March, June, September, and December of
20 each year, the state treasurer, based upon information provided by
21 the department, must transfer a sum equal to the dollar amount of the
22 credit provided under this section from the multimodal transportation
23 account to the ~~((general fund))~~ state patrol highway account for the
24 purpose described in RCW 43.43.380(2).

25 (15) Credits may be earned under this section from January 1,
26 2016, through January 1, 2021.

27 (16) Credits earned under this section may not be used after
28 January 1, 2022.

29 **Sec. 5.** RCW 82.04.4496 and 2015 3rd sp.s. c 44 s 411 are each
30 amended to read as follows:

31 (1)(a) A person who is taxable under this chapter is allowed a
32 credit against the tax imposed in this chapter according to the gross
33 vehicle weight rating of the vehicle and the incremental cost of the
34 vehicle purchased above the purchase price of a comparable
35 conventionally fueled vehicle. The credit is limited, as set forth in
36 the table below, to the lesser of the incremental cost amount or the
37 maximum credit amount per vehicle purchased, and subject to a maximum
38 annual credit amount per vehicle class.

Gross Vehicle Weight	Incremental Cost Amount	Maximum Credit Amount Per Vehicle	Maximum Annual Credit Per Vehicle Class
Up to 14,000 pounds	50% of incremental cost	\$5,000	\$2,000,000
14,001 to 26,500 pounds	50% of incremental cost	\$10,000	\$2,000,000
Above 26,500 pounds	50% of incremental cost	\$20,000	\$2,000,000

(b) On September 1st of each year any unused credits from any weight class identified in the table in (a) of this subsection must be made available to applicants applying for credits under any other weight class listed.

(c) The credit provided in this subsection (1) is not available for the lease of a vehicle.

(2) A person who is taxable under this chapter is allowed, subject to the maximum annual credit per vehicle class in subsection (1)(a) of this section, a credit against the tax imposed in this chapter for the lesser of twenty-five thousand dollars or thirty percent of the costs of converting a commercial vehicle to be principally powered by a clean alternative fuel with a United States environmental protection agency certified conversion.

(3) The total credits under this section may not exceed the lesser of two hundred fifty thousand dollars or twenty-five vehicles per person per calendar year.

(4) A person may not receive credit under this section for amounts claimed as credits under chapter 82.16 RCW.

(5) Credits are available on a first-in-time basis. The department must disallow any credits, or portion thereof, that would cause the total amount of credits claimed under this section, and RCW 82.16.0496, during any calendar year to exceed six million dollars. The department must provide notification on its web site monthly on the amount of credits that have been applied for, the amount issued, and the amount remaining before the statewide annual limit is reached. In addition, the department must provide written notice to any person who has applied to claim tax credits in excess of the limitation in this subsection.

(6) For the purposes of the limits provided in this section, a credit must be counted against such limits for the calendar year in which the credit is earned.

(7) To claim a credit under this section a person must electronically file with the department all returns, forms, and any

1 other information required by the department, in an electronic format
2 as provided or approved by the department. No refunds may be granted
3 for credits under this section.

4 (8) To claim a credit under this section, the person applying
5 must:

6 (a) Complete an application for the credit which must include:

7 (i) The name, business address, and tax identification number of
8 the applicant;

9 (ii) A quote or unexecuted copy of the purchase requisition or
10 order for the vehicle;

11 (iii) The type of alternative fuel to be used by the vehicle;

12 (iv) The incremental cost of the alternative fuel system;

13 (v) The anticipated delivery date of the vehicle;

14 (vi) The estimated annual fuel use of the vehicle in its
15 anticipated duties;

16 (vii) The gross weight of the vehicle; and

17 (viii) Any other information deemed necessary by the department
18 to support administration or reporting of the program.

19 (b) Within fifteen days of notice of credit availability from the
20 department, provide notice of intent to claim the credit including:

21 (i) A copy of the order for the vehicle, including the total cost
22 for the vehicle;

23 (ii) The anticipated delivery date of the vehicle, which must be
24 within one hundred twenty days of acceptance of the credit; and

25 (iii) Any other information deemed necessary by the department to
26 support administration or reporting of the program.

27 (c) Provide final documentation within fifteen days of receipt of
28 the vehicle, including:

29 (i) A copy of the final invoice for the vehicle;

30 (ii) A copy of the factory build sheet or equivalent
31 documentation;

32 (iii) The vehicle identification number of the vehicle;

33 (iv) The incremental cost of the alternative fuel system;

34 (v) Attestations signed by both the seller and purchaser of the
35 vehicle attesting that the incremental cost of the alternative fuel
36 system includes only the costs necessary for the vehicle to run on
37 alternative fuel and no other vehicle options, equipment, or costs;
38 and

39 (vi) Any other information deemed necessary by the department to
40 support administration or reporting of the program.

1 (9) To administer the credits, the department must, at a minimum:
2 (a) Provide notification on its web site monthly of the amount of
3 credits that have been applied for, claimed, and the amount remaining
4 before the statewide annual limit is reached;
5 (b) Within fifteen days of receipt of the application, notify
6 persons applying of the availability of tax credits in the year in
7 which the vehicles applied for are anticipated to be delivered;
8 (c) Within fifteen days of receipt of the notice of intent to
9 claim the tax credit, notify the applicant of the approval, denial,
10 or missing information in their notice; and
11 (d) Within fifteen days of receipt of final documentation, review
12 the documentation and notify the person applying of the acceptance of
13 their final documentation.
14 (10) If a person fails to supply the information as required in
15 subsection (8) of this section, the department must deny the
16 application.
17 (11)(a) Taxpayers are only eligible for a credit under this
18 section based on:
19 (i) Sales, but not leases, of new commercial vehicles and
20 qualifying used commercial vehicles with propulsion units that are
21 principally powered by a clean alternative fuel; or
22 (ii) Costs to modify a commercial vehicle, including sales of
23 tangible personal property incorporated into the vehicle and labor or
24 service expenses incurred in modifying the vehicle, to be principally
25 powered by a clean alternative fuel.
26 (b) A credit is earned when qualifying purchases are made.
27 (12) A credit earned during one calendar year may be carried over
28 to be credited against taxes incurred in the subsequent calendar
29 year, but may not be carried over a second year.
30 (13)(a) Beginning November 25, 2015, and on the 25th of February,
31 May, August, and November of each year thereafter, the department
32 must notify the state treasurer of the amount of credits taken under
33 this section as reported on returns filed with the department during
34 the preceding calendar quarter ending on the last day of December,
35 March, June, and September, respectively.
36 (b) On the last day of March, June, September, and December of
37 each year, the state treasurer, based upon information provided by
38 the department, must transfer a sum equal to the dollar amount of the
39 credit provided under this section from the multimodal transportation

1 account to the ((~~general fund~~)) state patrol highway account for the
2 purpose described in RCW 43.43.380(2).

3 (14) The definitions in this subsection apply throughout this
4 section unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

5 (a) "Commercial vehicle" means any commercial vehicle that is
6 purchased by a private business and that is used exclusively in the
7 transportation of commodities, merchandise, produce, refuse, freight,
8 or animals, and that is displaying a Washington state license plate.

9 (b) "Clean alternative fuel" means electricity, dimethyl ether,
10 hydrogen, methane, natural gas, liquefied natural gas, compressed
11 natural gas, or propane.

12 (c) "Qualifying used commercial vehicle" means vehicles that:

13 (i) Have an odometer reading of less than thirty thousand miles;

14 (ii) Are less than two years past their original date of
15 manufacture;

16 (iii) Were modified after the initial purchase with a United
17 States environmental protection agency certified conversion that
18 would allow the propulsion units to be principally powered by a clean
19 alternative fuel; and

20 (iv) Are being sold for the first time after modification.

21 (15) Credits may be earned under this section from January 1,
22 2016, through January 1, 2021.

23 (16) Credits earned under this section may not be used after
24 January 1, 2022.

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