
SENATE BILL 5944

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 2nd Special Session

By Senator Becker

Read first time 06/01/17. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to negligent entrustment by rental car agencies;
2 and amending RCW 46.20.220.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.20.220 and 2010 c 8 s 9020 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to rent a motor vehicle
7 of any kind including a motorcycle to any other person unless the
8 latter person is then duly licensed as a vehicle driver for the kind
9 of motor vehicle being rented in this state or, in case of a
10 nonresident, then that he or she is duly licensed as a driver under
11 the laws of the state or country of his or her residence except a
12 nonresident whose home state or country does not require that a motor
13 vehicle driver be licensed((+)).

14 (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to rent a motor vehicle
15 to another person until he or she has inspected the vehicle driver's
16 license of such other person and compared and verified the signature
17 thereon with the signature of such other person written in his or her
18 presence((+)).

19 (3) Every person renting a motor vehicle to another person shall
20 keep a record of the ((vehicle)) license plate number of the motor
21 vehicle so rented, the name and address of the person to whom the

1 motor vehicle is rented, the number of the vehicle driver's license
2 of the person renting the vehicle and the date and place when and
3 where such vehicle driver's license was issued. Such record shall be
4 open to inspection by any police officer or anyone acting for the
5 director.

6 (4) Any person who rents a motor vehicle to another person and
7 does not comply with the requirements of this section may be held
8 liable for negligent entrustment. However, this subsection must not
9 be construed to require any person renting a motor vehicle to confirm
10 the validity of the driver's license of the person renting the motor
11 vehicle beyond confirming that the driver's license is facially valid
12 and the signature on the driver's license matches the signature of
13 the person renting the vehicle.

--- END ---