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**SENATE BILL 5198**

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**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Valdez, Holy, Bateman, Dhingra, Hasegawa, Nobles, and Trudeau; by request of Department of Licensing

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1 AN ACT Relating to training as an alternative to driver license  
2 suspension for the accumulation of certain traffic infractions;  
3 amending RCW 46.20.2892 and 46.20.311; and providing an effective  
4 date.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.20.2892 and 2021 c 240 s 7 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) Whenever the official records of the department show that a  
9 person has committed a traffic infraction for a moving violation on  
10 three or more occasions within a one-year period, or on four or more  
11 occasions within a two-year period, the department must suspend the  
12 license of the driver for a period of 60 days and establish a period  
13 of probation for one calendar year to begin when the suspension ends,  
14 except as provided in subsection (2) of this section. Prior to  
15 reinstatement of a license, the person must complete a safe driving  
16 course as recommended by the department.

17 (2) At any time after the department provides notice of a pending  
18 suspension under subsection (1) of this section, a person may  
19 complete the safe driving course mandated under subsection (1) of  
20 this section. The department must terminate a suspension prior to the  
21 expiration of the 60-day period when the department receives notice

1 that the person has completed the safe driving course. The department  
2 must establish a period of probation for one calendar year to begin  
3 the day the suspension is terminated. A suspension may only be  
4 terminated early once every five years under this subsection.

5 (3) During ((the)) a period of probation, the person must not be  
6 convicted of any additional traffic infractions for moving  
7 violations. Any traffic infraction for a moving violation committed  
8 during the period of probation shall result in an additional 30-day  
9 suspension to run consecutively with any suspension already being  
10 served. A person is not eligible for early reinstatement under  
11 subsection (2) of this section for a probation violation that occurs  
12 during the period of probation.

13 ((+2)) (4) When a person has committed a traffic infraction for  
14 a moving violation on two occasions within a one-year period or three  
15 occasions within a two-year period, the department shall send the  
16 person a notice that an additional infraction will result in  
17 suspension of the person's license for a period of 60 days.

18 ((+3)) (5) The department may not charge a reissue fee at the  
19 end of the term of suspension under this section.

20 ((+4)) (6) For purposes of this section, multiple traffic  
21 infractions issued during or as the result of a single traffic stop  
22 constitute one occasion.

23 **Sec. 2.** RCW 46.20.311 and 2021 c 240 s 8 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (1)(a) The department shall not suspend a driver's license or  
26 privilege to drive a motor vehicle on the public highways for a fixed  
27 period of more than one year, except as specifically permitted under  
28 RCW 46.20.267, 46.20.342, or other provision of law.

29 (b) Except for a suspension under RCW 46.20.267, 46.20.289,  
30 46.20.291(5), 46.61.740, or 74.20A.320, whenever the license or  
31 driving privilege of any person is suspended by reason of a  
32 conviction, a finding that a traffic infraction has been committed,  
33 pursuant to chapter 46.29 RCW, or pursuant to RCW 46.20.291 or  
34 46.20.308, the suspension shall remain in effect until the person  
35 gives and thereafter maintains proof of financial responsibility for  
36 the future as provided in chapter 46.29 RCW.

37 (c) If the suspension is the result of a nonfelony violation of  
38 RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the department shall determine the  
39 person's eligibility for licensing based upon the reports provided by

1 the substance use disorder agency or probation department designated  
2 under RCW 46.61.5056 and shall deny reinstatement until enrollment  
3 and participation in an approved program has been established and the  
4 person is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a  
5 violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), the department shall  
6 determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the  
7 reports provided by the substance use disorder agency required under  
8 RCW 46.61.524 and shall deny reinstatement until satisfactory  
9 progress in an approved program has been established and the person  
10 is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a  
11 violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, and the person is required  
12 pursuant to RCW 46.20.720 to drive only a motor vehicle equipped with  
13 a functioning ignition interlock, the department shall determine the  
14 person's eligibility for licensing based upon written verification by  
15 a company doing business in the state that it has installed the  
16 required device on a vehicle owned or operated by the person seeking  
17 reinstatement. The department may waive the requirement for written  
18 verification under this subsection if it determines to its  
19 satisfaction that a device previously verified as having been  
20 installed on a vehicle owned or operated by the person is still  
21 installed and functioning or as permitted by RCW 46.20.720(8). If,  
22 based upon notification from the interlock provider or otherwise, the  
23 department determines that an interlock required under RCW 46.20.720  
24 is no longer installed or functioning as required, the department  
25 shall suspend the person's license or privilege to drive. Whenever  
26 the license or driving privilege of any person is suspended or  
27 revoked as a result of noncompliance with an ignition interlock  
28 requirement, the suspension shall remain in effect until the person  
29 provides notice issued by a company doing business in the state that  
30 a vehicle owned or operated by the person is equipped with a  
31 functioning ignition interlock device.

32 (d) Whenever the license or driving privilege of any person is  
33 suspended as a result of certification of noncompliance with a child  
34 support order under chapter 74.20A RCW, the suspension shall remain  
35 in effect until the person provides a release issued by the  
36 department of social and health services stating that the person is  
37 in compliance with the order.

38 (e)(i) Except as provided in RCW 46.20.2892(~~((3))~~)(5), the  
39 department shall not issue to the person a new, duplicate, or renewal

1 license until the person pays a reissue fee of (~~seventy-five~~  
2 ~~dollars~~) \$75.

3 (ii) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, if the  
4 suspension is the result of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or  
5 46.61.504, or is the result of administrative action under RCW  
6 46.20.308, the reissue fee shall be (~~one hundred seventy dollars~~)  
7 \$170.

8 (2)(a) Any person whose license or privilege to drive a motor  
9 vehicle on the public highways has been revoked, unless the  
10 revocation was for a cause which has been removed, is not entitled to  
11 have the license or privilege renewed or restored until: (i) After  
12 the expiration of one year from the date the license or privilege to  
13 drive was revoked; (ii) after the expiration of the applicable  
14 revocation period provided by RCW 46.20.3101 or 46.61.5055; (iii)  
15 after the expiration of two years for persons convicted of vehicular  
16 homicide; or (iv) after the expiration of the applicable revocation  
17 period provided by RCW 46.20.265.

18 (b)(i) After the expiration of the appropriate period, the person  
19 may make application for a new license as provided by law together  
20 with a reissue fee in the amount of (~~seventy-five dollars~~) \$75.

21 (ii) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, if the  
22 revocation is the result of a violation of RCW 46.20.308, 46.61.502,  
23 or 46.61.504, the reissue fee shall be (~~one hundred seventy~~  
24 ~~dollars~~) \$170. If the revocation is the result of a nonfelony  
25 violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, the department shall  
26 determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the  
27 reports provided by the substance use disorder agency or probation  
28 department designated under RCW 46.61.5056 and shall deny reissuance  
29 of a license, permit, or privilege to drive until enrollment and  
30 participation in an approved program has been established and the  
31 person is otherwise qualified. If the suspension is the result of a  
32 violation of RCW 46.61.502(6) or 46.61.504(6), the department shall  
33 determine the person's eligibility for licensing based upon the  
34 reports provided by the substance use disorder agency required under  
35 RCW 46.61.524 and shall deny reinstatement until satisfactory  
36 progress in an approved program has been established and the person  
37 is otherwise qualified. If the revocation is the result of a  
38 violation of RCW 46.61.502 or 46.61.504, and the person is required  
39 pursuant to RCW 46.20.720 to drive only a motor vehicle equipped with  
40 a functioning ignition interlock or other biological or technical

1 device, the department shall determine the person's eligibility for  
2 licensing based upon written verification by a company doing business  
3 in the state that it has installed the required device on a vehicle  
4 owned or operated by the person applying for a new license. The  
5 department may waive the requirement for written verification under  
6 this subsection if it determines to its satisfaction that a device  
7 previously verified as having been installed on a vehicle owned or  
8 operated by the person is still installed and functioning or as  
9 permitted by RCW 46.20.720(8). If, following issuance of a new  
10 license, the department determines, based upon notification from the  
11 interlock provider or otherwise, that an interlock required under RCW  
12 46.20.720 is no longer functioning, the department shall suspend the  
13 person's license or privilege to drive until the department has  
14 received written verification from an interlock provider that a  
15 functioning interlock is installed.

16 (c) Except for a revocation under RCW 46.20.265, the department  
17 shall not then issue a new license unless it is satisfied after  
18 investigation of the driving ability of the person that it will be  
19 safe to grant the privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the public  
20 highways, and until the person gives and thereafter maintains proof  
21 of financial responsibility for the future as provided in chapter  
22 46.29 RCW. For a revocation under RCW 46.20.265, the department shall  
23 not issue a new license unless it is satisfied after investigation of  
24 the driving ability of the person that it will be safe to grant that  
25 person the privilege of driving a motor vehicle on the public  
26 highways.

27 (3) (a) Whenever the driver's license of any person is suspended  
28 pursuant to Article IV of the nonresident violators compact or RCW  
29 46.23.020 or 46.20.289 or 46.20.291(5), the department shall not  
30 issue to the person any new or renewal license until the person pays  
31 a reissue fee of (~~seventy-five dollars~~) \$75.

32 (b) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, if the  
33 suspension is the result of a violation of the laws of this or any  
34 other state, province, or other jurisdiction involving (i) the  
35 operation or physical control of a motor vehicle upon the public  
36 highways while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs,  
37 or (ii) the refusal to submit to a chemical test of the driver's  
38 blood alcohol content, the reissue fee shall be (~~one hundred seventy~~  
39 ~~dollars~~) \$170.

1 (4) When the department reinstates a person's driver's license  
2 following a suspension, revocation, or denial under RCW 46.20.3101 or  
3 46.61.5055, and the person is entitled to full day-for-day credit  
4 under RCW 46.20.3101(4) or 46.61.5055(9)(b)(ii) for an additional  
5 restriction arising from the same incident, the department shall  
6 impose no additional reissue fees under subsection (1)(e)(ii),  
7 (2)(b)(ii), or (3)(b) of this section associated with the additional  
8 restriction.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect April 1, 2026.

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