
SENATE BILL 5020

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Honeyford and Swecker

Read first time 01/12/09. Referred to Committee on Transportation.

1 AN ACT Relating to the issuance of horseless carriage plates to
2 trailers more than thirty years old; amending RCW 46.16.305; providing
3 an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.16.305 and 2008 c 72 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 The department shall continue to issue the categories of special
8 plates issued by the department under the sections repealed under
9 section 12 (1) through (7), chapter 250, Laws of 1990. Special license
10 plates issued under those repealed sections before January 1, 1991, are
11 valid to the extent and under the conditions provided in those repealed
12 sections. The following conditions, limitations, or requirements apply
13 to certain special license plates issued after January 1, 1991:

14 (1) A horseless carriage plate and a plate or plates issued for
15 collectors' vehicles more than thirty years old, upon payment of the
16 initial fees required by law and the additional special license plate
17 fee established by the department, are valid for the life of the
18 vehicle for which application is approved by the department. When a
19 single plate is issued, it shall be displayed on the rear of the

1 vehicle. A horseless carriage plate must be issued for any trailer
2 more than thirty years old, if the trailer, at the time it was
3 manufactured, was designed to be pulled by a vehicle eligible to
4 receive a horseless carriage plate under this section and is, while
5 traveling on public roads, pulled by a vehicle eligible to receive a
6 horseless carriage plate.

7 (2) The department may issue special license plates denoting
8 amateur radio operator status only to persons having a valid official
9 radio operator license issued by the federal communications commission.

10 (3) The department shall issue one set of special license plates to
11 each resident of this state who has been awarded the Congressional
12 Medal of Honor for use on a passenger vehicle registered to that
13 person. The department shall issue the plate without the payment of
14 licensing fees and motor vehicle excise tax.

15 (4) The department may issue for use on only one motor vehicle
16 owned by the qualified applicant special license plates denoting that
17 the recipient of the plate is a survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor
18 on December 7, 1941, to persons meeting all of the following criteria:

- 19 (a) Is a resident of this state;
- 20 (b) Was a member of the United States Armed Forces on December 7,
21 1941;
- 22 (c) Was on station on December 7, 1941, during the hours of 7:55
23 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. Hawaii time at Pearl Harbor, the island of Oahu, or
24 offshore at a distance not to exceed three miles;
- 25 (d) Received an honorable discharge from the United States Armed
26 Forces; and
- 27 (e) Is certified by a Washington state chapter of the Pearl Harbor
28 survivors association as satisfying the qualifications in (c) of this
29 subsection.

30 The department may issue such plates to the surviving spouse of any
31 deceased Pearl Harbor survivor who met the requirements of this
32 subsection. If the surviving spouse remarries, he or she shall return
33 the special plates to the department within fifteen days and apply for
34 regular plates. The surviving spouse must be a resident of this state.

35 The department shall issue these plates upon payment by the
36 applicant of all other license fees, but the department may not set or
37 charge an additional fee for these special license plates.

1 (5) Effective with registrations that are due or become due on or
2 after January 1, 2009, the department may issue for use on motor
3 vehicles owned by the qualified applicant special license plates
4 denoting that the recipient of the plate is a parent of a member of the
5 United States armed forces who died while in service to his or her
6 country or as a result of such service to persons meeting all of the
7 following criteria:

8 (a) Is a resident of this state; and

9 (b) Is a mother or father of a member of the United States armed
10 forces who died while in service to his or her country or who died as
11 a result of such service, as certified by the Washington state
12 department of veterans affairs.

13 The department shall issue these plates upon payment by the
14 applicant of all other license fees, but the department may not set or
15 charge an additional fee for these special plates.

16 (6) The department shall replace, free of charge, special license
17 plates issued under subsections (3) through (5) of this section if they
18 are lost, stolen, damaged, defaced, or destroyed. Such plates shall
19 remain with the persons upon transfer or other disposition of the
20 vehicle for which they were initially issued, and may be used on
21 another vehicle registered to the recipient in accordance with the
22 provisions of RCW 46.16.316(1).

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
25 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
26 July 1, 2009.

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